

# **Tribal Summit Progress Report**

**for the**

**Arizona Indian Nations  
and  
Governor Napolitano**



**September 14, 2006**



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO  
GOVERNOR

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September 14, 2006

Dear Tribal Leaders:

Welcome to our 13<sup>th</sup> Tribal Summit. As we gather together once again to discuss topics of vital importance to your communities and all of Arizona, we should keep in mind the progress we have made together to strengthen the relationships between the State and Arizona's 22 Indian Tribes, Nations, Communities, and Pueblo.

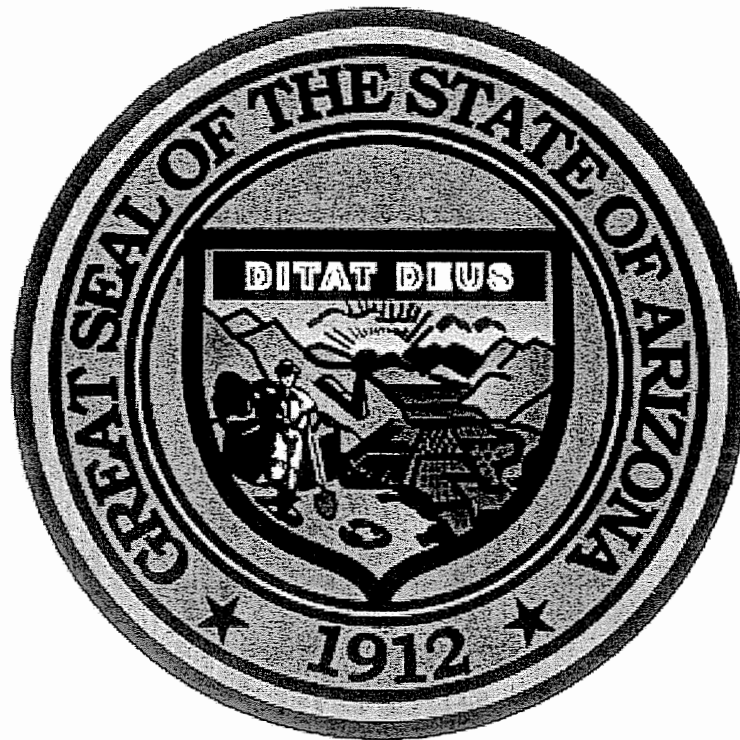
This 5<sup>th</sup> Progress Report is a compilation of the work being done by our State agencies that continually strive towards making the improvements we have previously agreed to during prior Summits. I believe we are making great strides in this area, and it is only by working together that we have been able to accomplish what we have so far, and will continue to work towards in the future.

Please review this Progress Report and give us your feedback. Our continued mutual communication is the cornerstone of finding solutions to some of our greatest challenges. By working together, we are creating lasting change that will benefit all of Arizona.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Napolitano", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Janet Napolitano  
Governor



**Summit Progress Report**  
for  
**Arizona Department of  
Commerce**

**September 14, 2006**

**DIRECTOR**  
**Gilbert Jimenez**

**Jim Arwood, Senior Director**  
**Energy Office**  
**and**  
**Rafael Tapia, Tribal Liaison**  
**Community Development**

## **ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE REPORT ON TRIBAL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

### **Introduction:**

The Arizona Department of Commerce ("ADOC") is charged with promoting and enhancing statewide economic growth and development. The State of Arizona and Tribes share the recognition that through leadership and collaborative partnerships, vibrant communities and a globally competitive Arizona can be created. Improving the economy and quality of life for all Arizonans requires a strategic collaborative approach that encompasses tribal and non-tribal governments, communities and stakeholders.

Economic challenges are common across political boundaries, thus encouraging cooperation in the areas of economic, workforce and community development. Tribal governments and officials are primarily responsible for the general welfare and health of the sovereign nations they serve; however, coordinated economic efforts with ADOC can enhance the overall economic wellbeing of Tribes and the goal of self-sufficiency. ADOC believes that practices and initiatives inherent in the agency will encourage and enhance the development of State and Tribal economic, workforce and community development policies, practices, initiatives, and capacity.

The Arizona Department of Commerce launched a regional economic development initiative spanning the entire state of Arizona. Regional Representatives hired for this endeavor have continued to engage economic, workforce and community development activities at the regional and local level. First and foremost, building and/or enhancing strategic relationships with key partners in the local communities and regions was required. After two years of working with tribal communities, governments and stakeholders, much progress has been made in this area by the tribal regional representative.

The ADOC and Tribal Regional Representative's activities for the period May, 2006 through August 2006 are reported in this section. Building a solid foundation is the theme of this update because our work has concentrated on building solid relationships and communication with tribal leaders, communities, public and private sector partners.

The ADOC is excited to report that we have created a tribal consultation policy. This document is expected to guide the agency's interaction and continued efforts to work with tribal communities on economic, workforce and community development initiatives led by the state and/or the tribe.

The ADOC Director Gilbert Jimenez met with tribal leaders in August 2006 along with the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona to discuss the work currently underway between ADOC and tribes and gather tribal leaders input regarding additional activities ADOC might assist tribes with in their pursuit of an improved economy. Tribal Leaders expressed interest in assistance for small business development.

The ADOC Director Gilbert Jimenez met with the newly hired Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs (ACIA) Executive Director Kenneth Poocha to establish a link between the agencies and seek partnering opportunities. In the past, the ADOC has assisted the ACIA in planning and implementing the Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day and the Arizona Indian Town Hall.

For almost two years, a private and public sector forum convened on a monthly basis to assist tribal communities in moving forward on their economic and community development projects. The ADOC, NAU - Center for American Indian Economic Development Program (CAIED), UofA - Native Technical Assistance Office (NTAO), and key stakeholders have re-established this forum which is called the Tribal Implementation Plan Sessions. In August, the TIPS session was held. Shonto and Tonalea Chapter and Navajo Nation Economic Development Division presented to the attending members of public and private organizations. This forum is meant to provide a point of contact for tribal communities seeking financial, technical and forms of assistance to implement their economic development plans. Meetings will be held on a monthly basis.

The ADOC Tribal Liaison continues to participate in collaborative meetings with the Arizona Department of Housing, Arizona Office of Tourism, Arizona Department of Transportation, and Governor's Office of Equal Opportunity and Employment. The purpose for these meetings is to provide inter-agency support to tribal endeavors increasing the resources and assistance afforded to tribal communities. A great example is the collaboration between Shonto Chapter and the Navajo Nation Economic Development Administration, Navajo Nation Regional Business Development Office, ADOC, Arizona Department of Housing, Arizona Department of Transportation, Arizona Office of Tourism, Governor's Office of Equal Opportunity and Employment, Northern Arizona University – CAIED, and UofA NTAO. In the two years since these partnerships formed, the Shonto Chapter economic and community development plans have continued to show steady progress. Data has been gathered for the purpose of developing key community initiatives specifically, leading to the conceptual drawings of a public service facility/residential development designed by the UofA, Drachman Institute with funding from the Arizona Department of Housing; the Arizona Office of Tourism awarded about \$50,000.00 grant to Shonto to develop the tourism opportunities along the Western Region of the Navajo Nation; the Arizona Department of Transportation funded road improvements along the corridor which will be used for tourism and a 10 acre development planned for commercial and/or retail activities; ADOC – Energy Office and NAU energy audits and development of plans to assist the communities to address energy issues and opportunities; and, Shonto's efforts to establish a Community Development Corporation and continue to partner with public and private sector organizations to implement their economic and community development plans. Finally, the Navajo Nation Regional Business Development Office has begun work on the 10 acre development which will house retail and/or commercial entities.

The ADOC continues to partner with the Nineteen Tribal Nation Workforce Investment Board. Agency staff attend board meetings and participate in sub-committee meetings. A USDA grant was awarded to the ADOC and NTNWIB. The grant, matched by ADOC – Commerce and Economic Development Commission, is intended to enhance the board and tribal programs capacity to better serve the clientele. It is expected that the work will also strengthen the relationship between workforce and economic development initiatives within the areas served.

In closing, the ADOC has been involved in numerous discussions with tribal representatives related to small business assistance, finance, planning, information technology, financial education, and asset building. A number of the issues addressed by the tribes to the ADOC were further discussed at this years Governor's Rural Economic Development Conference. Approximately 10 tribes were represented at this conference. The ADOC will continue to build on the relationships established and assist the tribes' current economic, community and workforce development projects.

In addition to the work being conducted on the economic development front, the Energy Office within ADOC also works collaboratively with tribes. The Energy Office has worked diligently to follow up on the issues raised at the Governor's Tribal Summit on Energy hosted by the Yavapai Apache Nation in June 2004. Below is a list of activities undertaken since the most recent Tribal Summit in May 2006.

#### **Tribal Schools:**

The Energy Office has begun dialogue with the Western Region Office of BIA Education Facilities located in Phoenix on future energy improvement projects. There are approximately 60 campuses included within this Region and 54 are located in AZ. Most of the campuses have facility infrastructure needs and are also high energy consumers due to the age of the equipment and building envelope issues.

The Energy Office can be an asset to them as they have energy efficiency goals as well as reliability issues that we may be able to help them address across the State.

#### **Energy Audit:**

Energy Office Staff met with Shonto Chapter Vice-President Jonathan Nez and performed an energy audit on the Shonto Community Governance facilities and a new high school during a site visit on June 20, 2006.

#### **Havasupai Electric Outage:**

The Energy Office contacted various entities involved in the electric outages at the Village of Supai this summer. A white paper was written based on the information obtained during our fact finding mission. This white paper was provided to the Governor's Office and the Governor's Tribal Liaison.

#### **Trainings:**

The Energy Office Staff provided Building Science and Residential Energy Auditing training to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority Customer Service Department. A one-day

classroom training session and one-day of field training was provided to seven NTUA employees.

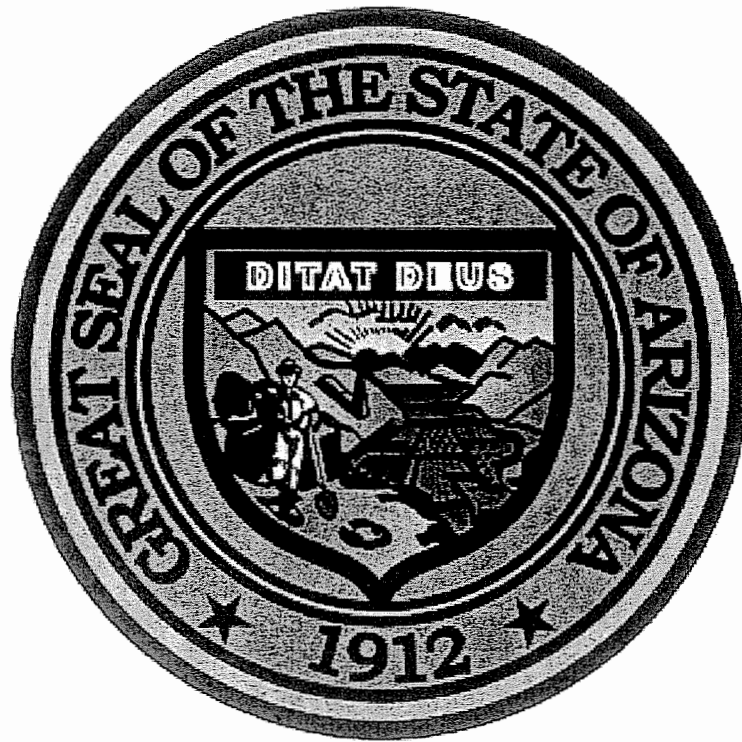
**Tax Credit Inspections:**

The Energy Office Staff performed an initial tax credit inspection for the Hopi Housing Department on a 27 units rehab project for the housing tax credit program. Additional technical assistance/training will be scheduled for the entire Hopi Housing Department and contractors involved with the project.

Staff also performed tax credit inspection for the San Carlos Reservation housing authority. They are remodeling 45 single family homes. Additional technical assistance/training will be scheduled for the Housing Department.

**Tribal Energy Liaison:**

The Energy Office has hired a new Tribal Energy Liaison. Debby Tewa, formerly of Sandia National Laboratories' Tribal Energy Programs, has been hired and will begin work with the Arizona Department of Commerce Energy Office on September 11, 2006.

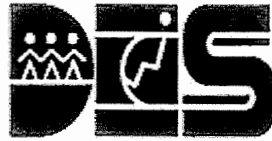


**Summit Progress Report**  
**for**  
**Arizona Department of**  
**Economic Security**  
**September 14, 2006**

**DIRECTOR**  
Tracy Wareing

**TRIBAL LIAISON**  
Cheron Watchman  
Native American Liaison





**Arizona Department of Economic Security  
Progress Report  
From  
May – August 2006**

The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) is dedicated to protecting and promoting the well-being of individuals and families through the delivery of quality, integrated human services. The vision of DES is that every child, adult, and family in the State of Arizona will be safe, healthy, educated, and economically secure.

On July 5, 2006, Dave Berns moved to Seattle, Washington to become the Executive Vice President of Child and Family Services of the Casey Family Programs, the nation's largest child welfare operating foundation. On July 6, 2006, Governor Napolitano appointed Ms. Tracey L. Wareing, as the DES Director. Ms. Wareing was Governor Napolitano's Policy Advisor on Human Services, and had also served as the Acting Director of the Division of Children, Youth and Families within DES last year. Thus, she is very familiar with the DES' visions and goals. She has also committed to continuing with Dave Bern's vision of helping families gain the tools they need to effectively and permanently escape the hardships of poverty and overcome barriers such as family violence, substance abuse, and behavioral health issues. She will continue to implement the Service Integration client service model at DES, which is a more holistic approach for improving overall outcomes for families.

**Service Integration Update:**

**Local Integrated Offices** – Local DES offices house programs and services, such as Family Assistance Administration, Jobs, Jobs Service, Child Protective Services, Developmental Disabilities Division and Child Support Enforcement Services, have streamlined the provision of employment services. Many offices have also redesigned their lobby and office space to accommodate co-location of community agencies and support a more integrated and smoother transition for families receiving multiple services. DES staff members are working cooperatively to coordinate local services within their offices and communities.

**Family Connections Teams** - These multidisciplinary teams provide comprehensive integrated services to at-risk families, with focus on prevention and/or early intervention to reduce involvement with the Temporary Assistance to

Needy Families (TANF) or Child Protective Services (CPS) system. The goal is to increase the stability and self-sufficiency of families, thereby decreasing the likelihood that they will enter either the TANF or CPS systems. There are currently six teams operating in Tucson and Phoenix with plans to expand that number with four additional teams. For more information, contact Charlene Flaherty, Community Services Program Administrator at 602-542-6650 or [cflaherty@azdes.gov](mailto:cflaherty@azdes.gov).

**Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Service Coordinators -**

The Service Coordinator conducts an up-front assessment of families applying for TANF to connect the family to all DES services and community services. The Service Coordinator determines eligibility for TANF, including Grant Diversion, food stamps, and medical assistance. For individuals involved in Grant Diversion, which is a one-time cash assistance to prevent the need for long-term services, the Service Coordinator provides job development & post-employment support services. The goals are to reduce the TANF caseload by improving outcomes for families from the point of the initial interview through serving the family holistically, identifying the family's strengths and addressing all potential needs. Currently, there are 36 TANF Service Coordinators, primarily located in Pima and Maricopa counties, with plans to expand to a total of 50. For more information, contact Marla Lazere, DERS Special Projects Manager at 602-542-6375 or [mlazere@azdes.gov](mailto:mlazere@azdes.gov).

**Customer Service Representatives -** The Customer Service Representative screens families upon initial contact and based on their responses, connects the family to community services and other DES programs. The goal is to improve customer service for families walking into DES offices and increase timeliness and access to needed services. There are currently eight Customer Service Representatives in the Tucson, Phoenix and the Show Low area. Plans for expansion depend on the interests and needs of individual local DES offices. For more information, contact Susan Hallett, Service Integration Coordinator at 602-364-0605 or [shallett@azdes.gov](mailto:shallett@azdes.gov).

**Jobs Privatization Project –** A Request for Proposals has been issued statewide to privatize the Department's Jobs program. This program helps people involved with TANF to achieve self-sufficiency by helping them prepare for and obtain employment. As a result of the RFP, this function will now be performed by contractors in each county. The RFP requires contractors to stipulate how they will partner with local DES offices and other community resources to help individuals achieve self-sufficiency and stability. Proposals were due back to DES by November 2005; contracts will be awarded and projects will begin in each county by Fall 2006. For more information, contact Keely Hartsell, DERS Deputy Assistant Director at 602-542-4910 or [khartsell@azdes.gov](mailto:khartsell@azdes.gov).

**Child Protective Services (CPS) Blueprint** – For the past two years, there has been great progress in reforming CPS. Much of that reform has come at the front end of the system, as more investigators have been hired, better safety and risk assessment tools have been developed, and case managers have increased their collaboration with the behavioral health system and with law enforcement. This Blueprint takes those reforms to the next level, focusing on strategies for better supporting biological, foster and adoptive families to keep kids safe at home, placing them in the most family-like setting possible if they need to be removed from their homes, and helping them find permanent families more quickly. The strategies outlined in the Blueprint focus on meeting these goals through greater collaboration with families, communities and the resources of DES and its sister agencies. For more information, contact Esther Kappas, DCYF Practice Improvement Manager at 602-542-2371 or [ekappas@azdes.gov](mailto:ekappas@azdes.gov).

**Breakthrough Series Collaborative (BSC) on Service Integration** – Twenty local teams across the state, comprised of equal representation of six family, six community and six DES partners have been created and trained on a continuous quality improvement methodology that utilizes rapid Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) action cycles. Teams develop, test and implement small, short term strategies aimed at improving the safety and self-sufficiency of families in their local community. Teams begin the process by defining problems, opportunities and outcomes. Small tests of change are explored involving only two or three families at a time. The results are studied and modified. Those that do not work are discarded. Those with potential are refined and implemented on a much broader scale. Emphasis on developing partnerships, increasing the capacity of families and communities to care for their families and spreading successful ideas across the teams is a primary feature of this Collaborative.

There are two Tribal BSC Teams: a Hopi and a Pascua Yaqui Tribal Team. The Colorado River Indian Tribes are represented on the LaPaz County/Parker team. The Phoenix Indian Center is represented on the ASU Downtown team. The Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation is represented on the East Valley Team. The San Carlos Apache Tribe is represented on the Gila County/Globe team. The Tohono O'odham Nation is represented on the Valencia/Pascua Yaqui Team. Several DES partners are Native American.

The BSC is a one year process. Three (3) learning sessions are to be held during the year long process. The first learning session was held on May 23 & 24, 2006. At that session 6 members from each of the 20 teams were taught the "plan-do-study-act" methodology. They then took it back to their entire teams and taught them the PDSA model and began to conduct "small tests of change" within their community.

The second learning session will be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, where the teams will come back to share their successes and challenges, and to increase

their understanding of the PDSA model. The final learning session will be held in the Spring of 2007.

DES has set up an extranet where the BSC teams can share their ideas. All PDSAs are collected onto one database, where everyone participating in this Breakthrough Series Collaborative can see what the other teams are doing. At the end of the BSC all of the successes and challenges will have been captured and analyzed.

#### **AHCCCS/DES Communications Plan on DRA:**

To prepare for the implementation of the federal mandates required by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) that went into effect on July 1, 2006, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), the state agency that administers Arizona's Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), finalized a communications plan to inform all citizens of Arizona of the new requirements that apply to all determinations of initial eligibility made on or after July 1, 2006, and to redeterminations of eligibility made on or after that date for whom the requirement was not previously met.

Carol Chicharello, AHCCCS Tribal Relations Liaison and Cheron Watchman, DES Native American Liaison, coordinated a Tribal meeting to discuss this issue, and the impact to the Tribes. Director David Berns (DES) and Director Anthony Rodgers (AHCCCS) sent out letters to the Tribes inviting them to participate in the meeting either in person or via teleconference on May 22, 2006. Carol Chicharello conducted a follow-up conference call on July 6, 2006 for Tribes, Indian Health Service, Tribal Organizations, and Urban Indian Clinics, and related organizations.

A team from DES, AHCCCS and the Arizona Department of Health Services continue to meet to implement this mandate so every citizen is provided health care services.

#### **TANF Tribes:**

The DES Native American Liaison and several DES fiscal and policy staff met with the TANF Tribes in May 2006 to assist with the federal reporting requirements. The Region IX Federal Representative, Rick Wever, also teleconferenced in to assist with questions the Tribes had regarding Tribal TANF fiscal matters.

The five TANF Tribes meet with DES staff twice a year to share information and ideas on how to improve communication and data collection, and share ideas between the tribes and DES. The Tribes also learn from each other how to improve their program management when they share information at these meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for October 19 & 20, 2006 at

Guadalupe, AZ, and will be hosted by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Prior to the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community has been very gracious in hosting these meetings.

### **Tribal Foster Care Recruitment Plan:**

DES collaborated with the Arizona's 22 Tribes, the InterTribal Council of Arizona (ITCA), and Casey Family Programs to develop a Tribal Foster Care Recruitment plan. The group, which was led by Lewis Lane, the Indian Child Welfare Specialist at DES, has met for a year arriving at the following plan, and included the following participants:

#### **Recruitment Plan Native American Foster/Adoptive Families**

#### **Participants**

- Navajo Nation
- Camp Verde Yavapai/Apache Tribe
- White Mountain Apache Tribe
- San Carlos Apache Tribe
- Tohono O'Odham Nation
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe
- Colorado River Indian Tribes
- Salt River Pima/Maricopa Indian Community
- Gila River Indian Community
- Ft. Mohave Indian Tribe
- Hualapai Indian Tribe
- Ft. McDowell Yavapai Indian Community
- Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.
- Casey Family Programs
- DES District Foster Care Liaisons
- DES District I & Central Office
- Bureau of Indian Affairs – Social Services

### **Length of Time to Draft Recruitment Plan:**

April 2005 – Recruitment Roundtable facilitated by *AdoptUSKids*

- Identification of 41 critical issues perceived as barriers
- Issues classified into five areas: government-to-government; recruitment/retention; financial incentives; licensing standards and data
- Recommendation to reconvene statewide Tribal/DES work group to develop a plan to recruit homes for Native American children
- Scheduled two-day work group meetings every other month to complete plan by May 2006

- Request DES to provide funds to enable tribal participation as recommended by tribal leadership

Five bi-monthly, two-day meetings to discuss and complete recruitment plan:

- October 6 & 7, 2005 – Outcomes: delineated 41 issues into issues and strategies
- November 3 & 4, 2005 – Outcomes: group discussed system issues and barriers to recruitment and retention and developed strategies to address issues and barriers
- January 18 & 19, 2006 – Outcomes: child specific, target, general recruitment and retention sub-groups worked on issues/barriers and developed action plans
- February 28 & March 1, 2006 – Outcomes: Consultation with Denise Goodman, Annie E. Casey Foundation regarding action plan. Incorporated Ms. Goodman's suggested recommendations into the proposed strategic recruitment plan for child specific, targeted, general and retention of foster families
- May 5, 2006 – Outcomes: Consulted Kathleen Barone, OLCR Manager regarding licensing standards and rule making/changing process. Re-visited April 2005 identified critical issues not addressed in the plan. Work group recommended a continuation of a small group to work on issues in collaboration with the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.

### **Financial Support and Sharing of Resources**

Tribal leadership requested financial support from DES for tribal participation through the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.

- DES Division of Children Youth and Families (DCYF) Management committed financial support to cover lodging, meals and mileage reimbursement for tribal affiliates
- Tribal leadership authorized tribal program staff to attend work group meetings sponsored by DES
- YTD expenses - \$2,429.91
- Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. provided conference room free of charge
- Six other tribal affiliates, who attended meetings, did not request reimbursement for lodging, meals and mileage; tribes financed trips

### **Major components of Native American Foster/Adoptive Families**

#### **Recruitment Plan**

- General recruitment – utilize mass media on and off Indian Reservations; tap corporate sponsorship; develop tribal specific advertisement; outreach at tribal events/social gatherings and coordinate with state and private agencies
- Targeted recruitment – plan annual event/function utilizing licensed families to recruit; recognize foster parents at conferences; feature stories

about successful foster parents in newspaper; joint outreach at community cultural events

- Child specific – develop positive profiles of children needing homes; craft tribal specific request for proposal/contract specifications; share profiles of children with recruiters; develop specific resources/incentives to support resource families
- Retention – provide mentors/support groups for resource families; provide intrinsic reward/recognition program; provide timely child specific training; include resource families in the decision-making process

### **Recommendations**

- Dedicate a position within DCYF to coordinate with state, tribal and private stakeholders to insure the implementation of the Native American Foster/Adoptive Families Recruitment Plan
- RFP for a child specific recruitment contract for Native American children in out-of-home care with a case plan goal of adoption
- Expand the Maricopa County Specialized Case Management Unit to work with Native American children in out-of-home care and their families and tribal communities

### **Division of Children, Youth and Families:**

The Division of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) has developed working relationships with the Tribes to promote safety and well-being for Tribal children and families. The Indian Child Welfare Act Unit (ICWA), the ICWA Specialist, and the Title IV-E foster care program IGA development team are housed in DCYF.

DCYF entered into IGAs with four Tribes for substance abuse funding: Ft Mohave, San Carlos Apache, White Mountain Apache, and Pascua Yaqui. In 2003, DES set aside \$10,000 per Tribe for substance abuse grants for Arizona's 22 Tribes, but only 5 Tribes applied. Today, four tribes continue to receive funding with increases in their grants. The Tribes use these funds for prevention, early intervention, education, or to supplement other behavioral health program funding.

Seven Tribes receive Promoting Safe and Stable Families (Title VI-B) funding: Quechan, Ak Chin, Hualapai, Salt River Pima Maricopa, San Carlos Apache, White Mountain Apache, and Tohono O'odham. These funds provide child abuse and neglect prevention and early intervention services to tribal families. The funds are also for the purpose of enhancing child development and well-being, providing basic information and raising awareness in an effort to prevent child maltreatment. The Tribes receiving Title IV-B funding have designed programs to fit their needs. For example, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe uses its Title IV-B funding to supplement its Tribal Child Protective Services Program

(CPS). However, the Tribal CPS resists the conventional DES method of an 8-week intensive in-home prescribed period to complete case management. Instead, when the Family Support Supervisor receives referrals from the Tribal or DES CPS, she develops an individual case treatment plan that takes longer, sometimes working with families up to 6 months. Gaining the trust of the Tribal families takes a while, thus allowing caseworkers into family homes.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe also receives Healthy Families funding through an IGA, which is specifically geared for the 0-5 child and family. The goals of the Health Families Program are to promote child health and development, to enhance child & parent interaction, and to prevent child abuse and neglect. With this funding, the Tribe created a program that provides prenatal in-home services, developmental assessments and services that follow a child until age 5. Their program additionally provides housing, health care, nutrition education, safety assessment and parenting skills to Pascua Yaqui Tribal families. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is the only Tribe to receive the Healthy Families funding.

The Navajo Nation receives SSBG funds through an IGA with DES to deliver a comprehensive child welfare service delivery system. This IGA includes working with DCYF, the state courts, the Navajo Nation court system, and incorporates the Indian Child Welfare Act into their structure.

There are also nine Family Support/Family Preservation IGAs: Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, San Carlos Apache, Pascua Yaqui, White Mountain Apache, Navajo Nation, Quechan, Colorado River Indian Tribes, and Hualapai.

#### **Title IV-E Process:**

DES and Casey Family Programs are collaborating in the development of Tribal IGAs for the Title IV-E foster care program. DES receives federal funding for foster care children under Title IV-E. The Tribes in turn may enter into IGAs with DES and be reimbursed for the care of Tribal foster care children in Tribal custody. The Casey Family Programs is administering the training portion of the Title IV-E process, while DES actually enters into IGAs with the Tribes.

The Casey Family Foundation has developed a Four Phase schedule for DES and the Tribes for training and developing the Title IV-E IGAs.

- Phase One: The Hopi Tribe will amend portions of their IGA and improve the billing process, which is the heart of the IGA.
- Phase Two: Finalize the Navajo Nation's IGA. Because the Navajo Nation has a large number of cases, and five regional areas to develop, it has been agreed by all involved that the Title IV-E Program is going to be incrementally



integrated into the Navajo Nation, beginning with one site, in one state, and gradually spread into the three states of the Navajo Nation.

Phase Three: Incorporate White Mountain Apache, San Carlos Apache and Pascua Yaqui Tribes into the process.

Phase Four: Runs concurrent with all the other phases. Training will be offered to the Tribes that are interested and are qualified to enter into a Title IV-E IGA, including: Colorado River Indian Tribe (CRIT), Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), Tohono O'odham, and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Ramah Navajos asked Casey for technical assistance, and Zuni Pueblos have asked Casey to provide Title IV-E training on September 27 & 28<sup>th</sup>. Anyone wanting to attend this training may do so, but must call Mary Huyser by September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Casey's training consists of the Title IV-E federal law and guidelines with regard to eligibility requirements of Tribal children; reimbursement for administrative, educational, and foster care costs; preparation of model IGAs; and other technical assistance. DES provides technical assistance to the Tribes, and enters into IGAs. DES also provides training to the Tribes on the CHILDS program, the DCYF database information system.

#### **Urban Child Welfare Project:**

DES, Casey Family Programs and other Phoenix area organizations are in the beginning stages of planning an urban Native area child welfare program and/or technical assistance center for child welfare. The funding will come from the Casey Family Programs and the Phoenix metropolitan area is researching how they can participate in the Indian child welfare process.

#### **Nineteen Tribal Nations Workforce Investment Board:**

NTNWIB Board Meetings: The NTNWIB holds quarterly meetings. Meetings focus on issues related to employment and training opportunities for all Tribal people. Effective January 1, 2006 the NTNWIB's Two-Year Strategic Plan was approved by the Governor's Council on Workforce Policy to help Tribes meet the Governor's Strategic Two-Year State Workforce Investment Plan for Title I of the WIA and the Wagner Peyser Act. Ongoing training to help meet benchmarks is being developed.

The Department of Commerce secured \$50,000 in partnership with the NTNWIB from the USDA to fund tribal community based training focused on improving the connection between workforce development and economic development. The USDA grant will fund a program to address tribal workforce

needs through establishment of a "Train the Trainer" program and development of a training program manual that will be self-sustaining.

The NTNWIB elected new officers in May 2006. The new Board Chair is Frank Molina from the Cocopah Tribe. The board is currently in the midst of restructuring and formalizing many of its current practices into formal policies. The Annual NTNWIB Conference will be held December 6-8, 2006 and will include training for board members. The next board meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2006.

### **Division of Child Support Enforcement:**

DES has a Tribal contact in almost every division. The tribal contact in Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE) is Lynn Canarini. DCSE had the opportunity to meet with the San Carlos Apache Tribe (SCAT), during this quarter to offer the State Title IV-D Program's assistance in establishing legal paternity.

DCSE meets regularly with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Tribe (SRPMIC) and the Navajo Nation (NN) to ensure processes between the State Title IV-D Program and their Tribal TANF programs and the (NN)'s Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Program are working properly.

The Navajo Nation and DCSE renegotiated their Intergovernmental Agreement in January 2006.

The Navajo Nation and DCSE have been working together to increase connectivity between the State and the NN and are now in the final stages of implementation. When the entire network on the Navajo Nation is connected to the DCSE's ATLAS system, the state's child support collections and DCSE client database system, the Navajo Nation's child support program will be a paperless program. The Tribe will conduct program activities by computer. Both the DCSE and the NN will be connected to one system.

### **San Carlos Apache Tribe TANF Plan**

The San Carlos Apache Tribe (SCAT) has submitted their draft TANF plan to the DHHS for their review. Meanwhile, the Tribal TANF Director Tribe's plans to present the plan to Tribal oversight committee and the entire Tribal Council. Simultaneously, the TANF Director will also begin meeting with DES with the Native American Liaison, Family Assistance Administration, Employment Administration, and Child Care Administration staff to coordinate the development of the SCAT TANF and Jobs programs.

### **San Carlos Apache Tribal Child Support Enforcement Plan**

The SCAT Tribal Council unanimously passed a resolution to pursue the development and implementation of a Tribal Child Support Enforcement Plan.

Bernadette Kniffin, Tribal TANF Director, has been charged with having the grant application completed by October 1, 2006.

### **San Carlos Apache Tribe & the Southern Gila County Network Team**

The San Carlos Apache Tribe (SCAT) is highly involved with the Southern Gila County Network Team (SGCNT). Bernadette Kniffin, SCAT Tribal TANF Director is the Tribe's designated member of the SGCNT. She is also the SCAT representative on the Gila County Breakthrough Series Team, also known as the "Coppertops". Through Ms. Kniffin's personal and dedicated involvement:

1. SCAT is a member the SGCNT Meth Awareness and Prevention Committee. This committee has been providing a variety of meth awareness educational programs within Southern Gila County.
2. SCAT appears at the monthly SGCNT meetings to provide updates on their Strategic Tribal Empowerment Prevention Plan (STEPP) Committee, which is addressing meth, through a STEPP subcommittee, in San Carlos.
3. SCAT is a member of the Gila County Meth Coalition. This Coalition, under the auspices of the Gila County Sheriff, includes a variety of members from throughout Gila County.
4. Ms. Kniffin is working with SGCNT member Peggy Huggins, DES Child Care Administration, to identify means to have (some) child care on the reservation. (Example: relative provider).
5. In addition to all of work Ms. Kniffin does for her Tribe and the local community, she also serves on the Gila Community College Board.

DES is committed to strengthening its partnerships and relationships with the Tribes in providing human services to Tribal communities. The DES Native American Liaison, and the DES technical assistance teams specifically created to assist with coordinating and communicating with Tribes are also committed to creating better program service delivery to Tribal communities. These teams continuously provide outreach services and activities to Tribes.

### **Highlights of Outreach Activities to Tribal Communities from January –May 2006**

#### **May 2006:**

May 1, 2006: DES Native American Liaison attended the Governor's Advisory Council on Indian Health Council (ACOIHC) meeting. The ACOIHC conducted interviews for the Executive Director's position.

May 2 & 3, 2006 – DES Native American Liaison attended the Region IX DHHS Tribal Consultation Session for the Tribes in Arizona, California and Nevada. The DES Liaison reported on BSC activities with the Arizona Tribes, the elevation of the Aging Services Program to a Division, the Title IV-E collaboration with Casey Family Programs, and numerous other activities.

May 4, 2006 – The NTNWIB held their quarterly meeting at the Heard Museum in Phoenix, AZ.

May 5, 2006 – DES Native American Liaison met with the Governor's Tribal Policy Advisory and other state Tribal Liaisons to be introduced to the new Executive Director of the ACIA.

May 10, 2006 – Governor's Tribal Leaders Summit on Behavioral Health Issues.

May 11, 2006 – DES staffs will attend the Pascua Yaqui Foster Care Parent Celebration to honor all the Tribal Foster Care Parents and the Tribal Foster Care Children.

May 12, 2006 – DES staff attended the Pascua Yaqui Blessing Ceremony for the TANF Center for Employment and Training.

May 17, 2006 – DES Native American Liaison attended the Navajo Nation Health and Human Services Committee meeting to continue discussions regarding the transfer of the Navajo Elder Protection Program.

May 18 & 19, 2006 – The Five TANF Tribes will meet at the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community for a two-day work session to discuss similar coordination issues, i.e., 60 month life time benefit limit, federal reporting requirements, jobs participation, etc. The Region IX Federal TANF representative teleconferenced into the meeting.

May 22, 2006 – DES Native American Liaison attended the DRA teleconference for Tribal Leaders, Tribal Health Directors, Indian Health Services Units, and Urban Health Centers, regarding the July 1, 2006, medical eligibility requirements.

May 23 & 24, 2006 – BSC First Learning Session. The Pascua Yaqui and the Hopi Tribal Teams attended this Session along with the other 18 teams to learn the Breakthrough Series methodology.

May 31, 2006 – The DES Native American Liaison attended the Advisory Council on Indian Health Care personnel committee meeting.

### **June 2006:**

June 5-7, 2006 – DES Native American Liaison attended a Casey Family Program Focus Session on ICWA in Albuquerque, NM.

June 4-7, 2006 – DES staff attended the Arizona Indian Town Hall in Scottsdale, AZ.

June 7, 2006 – Brad Willis, Deputy Child Care Administrator, provided opening remarks at the Circle of Caring & Sharing Training Conference sponsored by the InterTribal Council of Arizona. This annual conference provides training opportunities for child care staff that work in tribal early care and education settings.

June 13 & 14, 2006 – DES TANF coordinating team met with the Hopi TANF Program in Kykotsmovi, AZ.

June 15 & 16, 2006 – DES TANF coordinating team met with the Navajo Nation TANF Program in Window Rock, AZ.

June 19, 2006 – DES Native American Liaison met with Casey Family Program staff and Phoenix Indian Center staff to begin discussions on urban child welfare program development.

June 22, 2006 – DES TANF coordinating team met with the Pascua Yaqui TANF Program at the Guadalupe TANF Office.

June 22, 2006 – DES Child Care Administration renewed the IGA between DES and the InterTribal Council of Arizona. The goals of this contract are to develop community based strategies to address issues that result in increased availability of quality child care options and to assure quality and meaningful child care services are delivered that are culturally sensitive, family focused and responsive to the population.

June 27, 2006 – DES TANF coordinating team met with the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community TANF Program.

### **July 2006:**

July 10, 2006 – DES staff, Casey Family Programs, Native American Connections, and the Phoenix Indian Center staff met to further discuss the urban child welfare project.

July 12, 2006 - DES staff met with the Navajo Nation regarding senior center funding.

July 27, 2006 - DES staff, Casey Family Programs, Native American Connections, and the Phoenix Indian Center staff met to further discuss the urban child welfare project.

### **August 2006:**

August 7-9, 2006 - Connie Shorr, DES Child Care Administrator and Brad Willis, Deputy Administrator, met with child care representatives of the Gila River, Hopi, Navajo, Tohono O'odham, Pima/Salt River and Hualapai tribes while at a Child Care Bureau National Conference in Washington D.C. They discussed professional development opportunities for child care staff, early learning guidelines, licensing and subsidy review, and identified next steps. As a result of that meeting, Connie and Brad have scheduled an appointment to meet with Ron Ransom from Pima/Salt River, to tour their child care centers in early September.

August 17, 2006 – Child Care Administration finalized the renewal of the Inter-Governmental Agreement with the Tohono O'odham Nation, which supports the operational costs of two child care centers.

August 18, 2006 – The Advisory Council on Indian Health held a meeting with their new Director, Mr. Fred Hubbard.

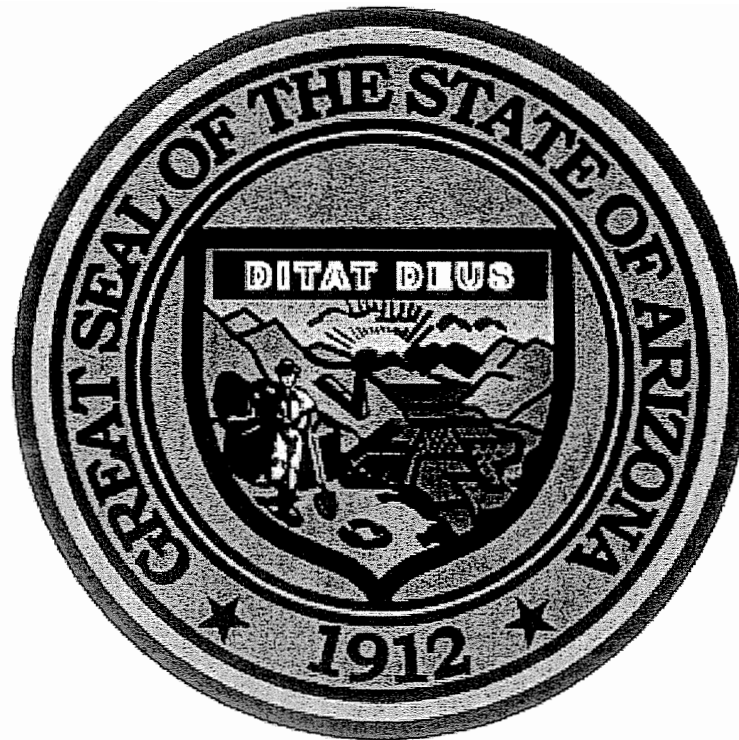
August 21, 2006 - DES staff, Casey Family Programs, Native American Connections, and the Phoenix Indian Center staff met to finalize a plan for submission to Casey for an urban child welfare program.

August 23, 2006 - Tony Zabicki and Brad Willis from DES Child Care Administration met with a representative of the San Carlos Child Care Office and discussed the requirements for child care facilities (both home and center based) located on reservations to contract with DES to receive reimbursement for care provided to DES eligible families.

August 24, 2006 – Brad Willis attended a meeting of the Tribal Early Childhood Working Group facilitated by the InterTribal Council of Arizona. During this meeting there was a review of activities by Tribal programs, the DES Child Care Administration, Federal and State legislation, the Governor's School Readiness Board and planning for next years Circle of Caring & Sharing inter-tribal training conference.

August 29, 2006 – DES Native American Liaison met with AHCCCS regarding the DRA implementation team, where it was announced that a finalized communication plan is going to be launched on the AHCCCS webpage.

August 30, 2006 – DES Native American Liaison met with Debra Norris and Bonnie Talakte to discuss collaboration on the new drop out prevention program that the Department of Education is implementing.



**Summit Progress Report**  
for  
**Arizona Department of  
Environmental Quality**

**September 14, 2006**

**DIRECTOR**  
Stephen Owens

**TRIBAL LIAISON**  
Brian Davidson



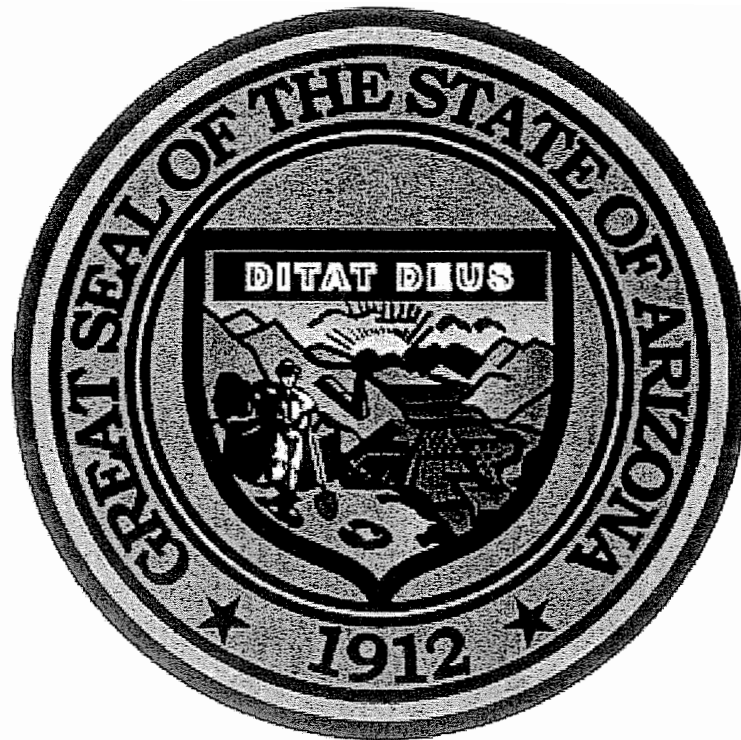
## **Arizona Department of Environmental Quality**

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") has been actively involved in several of the Governor's Tribal Summits and was the lead State agency to participate in the Tribal Summit on Environmental Issues hosted by the Gila River Indian Community in November 2005. ADEQ was one of the first State agencies to develop a tribal consultation policy and designate a member of its executive team to serve as a tribal liaison. Our tribal consultation policy now serves as a model for other State agencies that are in the process of developing their own tribal consultation policies.

The following is a summary of what ADEQ has been doing with Arizona tribes since the most recent Tribal Summit in May 2006:

- On June 1, 2006 the Fort Mohave tribe had sent in a request to ADEQ to investigate an "act of disposal" through burial methods of large quantities of a/c chiller equipment. This request was sent in from Nora McDowell, Tribal Chairperson. On June 20, DEQ Inspectors visited the alleged site with a member of the Ft. Mojave EPA. They were unable to find any conclusive evidence of the drums or a/c equipment. To complicate the issue, the tribal representative told the inspectors that the site was previously a dump. They did observe a large amount of concrete and rebar which could have triggered the detectors. A worker from the nearby Calpine Power Plant told the inspectors that other things had also been dumped at the site including old cars.
- On June 28, 2006, the Navajo Nation EPA met with ADEQ to talk about new Aquifer Protection Permit rules that became into affect on November 12, 2005, draft documents related to the proposed "Narrative biocriteria standard", and dealing with drinking water quality standards on wells after wildfires have taken place.
- On July 19, 2006, Tribal Liaison, Brian Davidson spoke with ITCA in Kykotsmovi. They spoke about ways ADEQ will work with tribes regarding permitting applications that may affect tribal lands.
- On August 1, 2006 the Ak-Chin Indian Community sent in a request to re-open and amend an Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) issued to Santa Rosa Utility Company (SRUC). The permit constructed a wastewater treatment facility south of the Ak-Chin Reservation that will be adjacent to the Smith Wash. Currently ADEQ is working with the Ak-Chin community to talk about the details of the permit.





**Summit Progress Report**  
for  
**Arizona Health Care  
Cost Containment System**

**September 14, 2006**

**DIRECTOR**  
Tony Rodgers

**TRIBAL LIAISON**  
Carol Chicharello  
Tribal Relations Liaison



## **Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System Progress Report**

September 14, 2006

### Introduction

The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), which serves as the state's Medicaid agency, is a health care program primarily targeted at serving low-income Arizonans. AHCCCS' mission is reaching across Arizona to provide comprehensive, quality health care to those in need. AHCCCS provides health care coverage to the state's acute and long term care Medicaid population, low-income groups, and small businesses under four main programs: acute care services, KidsCare, Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS), and Healthcare Group (HCG). Currently, over one million individuals, approximately 18% of Arizonans, receive health care coverage through AHCCCS.

AHCCCS is a model public-private collaboration that includes the state and its counties, the federal government and health plans and providers from both the public and private sectors.

Unlike programs in other states that rely solely on fee-for-service reimbursement, AHCCCS makes prospective capitation payments to contracted health plans responsible for the delivery of care. The result is a managed care system that mainstreams care recipients, allows them to choose their providers, and encourages prevention and the coordination of quality care.

The fee-for-service system is also available to American Indian AHCCCS members who choose the Indian Health Service (IHS)/AHCCCS fee-for-service (FFS) option. The care for individuals eligible for federal emergency services and other special populations is also handled through the fee-for-service system.

### Background

With over 250,000 American Indians residing in Arizona, almost half of this population is enrolled in AHCCCS. Of the American Indian AHCCCS member population, seventy percent have chosen IHS/AHCCCS FFS, while the remaining thirty percent are enrolled in a health plan.

Cognizant of the significant health care challenges confronted by American Indians, AHCCCS is committed to working with tribes and providers to increase

accessibility to quality health care for American Indians. AHCCCS has focused on the following six areas during the past six months.

- AHCCCS Strategic Initiative: Native American Health Care
- AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Policy
- Advisory Council on Indian Health Care
- AHCCCS and Indian Health Service (IHS)/Tribal Provider Coordination
- ALTCS Case Management Intergovernmental Agreements
- Communication with tribes, IHS, and other stakeholders

Many of these areas are interrelated but are described with more detail in their respective subsections.

#### AHCCCS Strategic Initiative: Native American Health Care

AHCCCS has developed a five-year strategic plan that was implemented at the beginning of state fiscal year 2007. The AHCCCS Strategic Plan identifies five strategic issues: health care costs, health care quality, the uninsured, AHCCCS infrastructure, and collaboration and integration of health care programs. The Plan offers strategic initiatives relating to two specific populations impacted by the aforementioned strategic issues. These initiatives include responding to a growing aging population and Native American health care.

Within the strategic initiative that addresses Native American health care, AHCCCS identifies three key issues: (1) unique health care needs; (2) availability and accessibility of care; and (3) health care information exchange. AHCCCS plans to address these issues through various strategies including collaboration, outreach and education, gathering of information, and support of information technology development. The AHCCCS Medical Director holds monthly workshops with key stakeholders to facilitate discussion on the strategic issues and recommended strategies to address those issues. The Medical Director has also been conducting Native American workgroup meetings that include the Tribal Relations Liaison, Tribal ALTCS Case Management Coordinator, and the Division of Fee for Service Management. Together, they will continue to work toward achieving the objectives outlined in the strategic initiative for Native American Health Care.

#### AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Policy

Approximately sixty-percent of American Indian AHCCCS members reside on reservation land. Therefore, it is very important that tribal governments are consulted when new issues arise that may have a significant impact on American Indian AHCCCS members. Under the direction of Governor Napolitano, AHCCCS created and adopted a tribal consultation policy to guide the agency in tribal consultation. The AHCCCS tribal consultation policy has been incorporated

into the AHCCCS Administrative Policy and will be available to the tribes for consultation.

#### Advisory Council on Indian Health Care

The Advisory Council on Indian Health Care (ACOIHC) has twenty-three seats, one of which is designated for an AHCCCS representative. The Tribal Relations Liaison serves on the ACOIHC as the representative for AHCCCS and has been actively involved in the Council's activities. Recent activities of the ACOIHC include the selection of a new Executive Director and the development of a 5-year strategic plan beginning in state fiscal year 2007. The Tribal Relations Liaison participated on two Council subcommittees: personnel and strategic planning. Manny Burrue, AHCCCS Organizational Development Consultant, facilitated the Strategic Planning Subcommittee Meetings and assisted in the compilation of the Council's Strategic Plan. AHCCCS Human Resource staff and the Administrator for Contracts and Purchasing also provided assistance to the Advisory Council on Indian Health Care. The following activities were some of the activities in which AHCCCS was actively involved during the previous six months.

- The Tribal Relations Liaison participated in the Advisory Council on Indian Health Care Meetings on June 2, 2006, July 7, 2006, and August 18, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and Organizational Development Consultant participated in the Strategic Planning Subcommittee Meetings on May 16, 2006, May 31, 2006, and June 26, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison participated in the Personnel Subcommittee Meeting on May 31, 2006.
- The Medical Director, Tribal Relations Liaison, and Assistant Director for the Division of Fee for Service Management presented information on the Native American Health Initiative and the Deficit Reduction Act documentation requirements to the Advisory Council on Indian Health Care on June 2, 2006.

#### AHCCCS and Indian Health Service (IHS)/Tribal Provider Coordination

AHCCCS, as a major funding source of health care services for American Indians, realizes the need for coordination with the Indian Health Service. Therefore, the AHCCCS Administration has worked closely with the Indian Health Service Area Offices and facilities in Arizona. The following activities have been conducted in conjunction with the Indian Health Service over the past six months.

- The AHCCCS Director and the IHS Directors from the Phoenix Area, Tucson Area, and Navajo Area meet on a quarterly basis for discussion and collaboration to better meet the health care needs of the IHS/AHCCCS FFS member population.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and Division of Member Services (DMS) policy staff has been working with the three IHS Area Offices to share information about Deficit Reduction Act citizenship and identity documentation requirements.
- The Assistant Director for the Division of Fee-for-Service Management (DFSM) and the AHCCCS Medical Director conduct monthly meetings with IHS staff on the Native American Health Initiative and topics such as information technology, telemedicine, behavioral health, and member management.
- DFSM holds monthly meetings with IHS business office staff to discuss claims and medical policy topics.
- The Assistant Director for DFSM and staff conduct meetings with executive staff of the Gila River Health Care Corporation every two weeks.
- The Assistant Director for DFSM, the AHCCCS Medical Director, and staff conduct meetings with executive staff of the Phoenix Indian Medical Center every two weeks.
- AHCCCS staff routinely responds to eligibility, medical, and claims policy inquiries from IHS and tribal providers.
- AHCCCS has recently been working with Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) – Division of Behavioral Health Services to identify opportunities for collaboration relating to behavioral health care for American Indian AHCCCS members. AHCCCS has also attended some monthly meetings with the Phoenix Indian Medical Center, ADHS, and Value Options.
- AHCCCS has recently been working with El Rio Health Center and the Navajo Area IHS Office to pilot the Health-e Arizona application at two facilities within the Navajo Area IHS.

AHCCCS values the ongoing partnerships with the Indian Health Service and tribal providers and will continue to work to improve communication and collaboration with the Area Offices and respective facilities in Arizona.

## ALTCS Case Management Intergovernmental Agreements

The Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) program provides acute care, behavioral health care, long term care, and case management services to individuals at risk of institutionalization (i.e. elderly, disabled, and individuals with developmental disabilities). The goal of the program is to continuously improve ALTCS' efficiency and effectiveness and support member choices in the delivery of the highest quality long term care to our customers.

The ALTCS program includes the Tribal Case Management program that serves seven Arizona tribes and one urban Indian health care program. The seven tribes and urban Indian health program, known as "tribal contractors," have Intergovernmental Agreements with AHCCCS/ALTCS to provide case management services. The tribes conduct case management and services provided to their respective ALTCS members are paid on a fee-for-service basis.

The ALTCS Tribal Case Management program reported a total of 1,820 ALTCS members served during the month of July. The majority of these members utilize home and community based services versus residing in a skilled nursing facility setting. The seven tribes and their respective ALTCS members are detailed below.

- Gila River Indian Community – 132 members
- Hopi Tribe – 58 members
- Navajo Nation – 1074 members
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe – 40 members
- San Carlos Apache Tribe – 108 members
- Tohono O'odham Nation – 207 members
- White Mountain Apache Tribe – 121 members

The urban Indian health program that contracts with AHCCCS/ALTCS to provide case management services is the Native American Community Health Center, Inc. (NACHCI) which serves 80 ALTCS members. NACHCI serves eight tribes including the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Yavapai Apache Nation, Cocopah Tribe, Colorado River Indian Tribes, Havasupai Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe.

Case Management Service Reviews were conducted beginning in January 2006 as a systemic approach to review the tribal contractor case management records for compliance with AHCCCS/ALTCS policies and procedures. The reviews were conducted during the following months:

- Native American Community Health Center – January 2006
- Tohono O'odham Nation – February 2006
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe – February 2006
- Gila River Indian Community – March 2006

- San Carlos Apache Tribe – April 2006
- White Mountain Apache Tribe – May 2006
- Navajo Nation – June 2006
- Hopi Tribe – To be conducted in August 2006

Other services provided by the Tribal ALTCS Case Management Program include:

- Quarterly workshops for tribal case managers and supervisors regarding policy updates
- New case manager training on the computer management information system
- Technical assistance to case managers regarding ALTCS case management
- Technical assistance to provider agencies and ALTCS independent providers

For more information on Tribal ALTCS Case Management, you may contact Filmer Lallo, Tribal ALTCS Case Management Coordinator, at (602) 417-4302.

#### Communication with tribes, IHS, and other stakeholders

AHCCCS has facilitated ongoing communication regarding the implementation of the citizenship documentation requirements under the Deficit Reduction Act, the National Provider Identifier (NPI) requirement under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, AZ 211, Health-e Arizona application, initiatives such as the Governor's E-Health Roadmap, and internal policy updates. The agency has published a quarterly newsletter "AHCCCS Native Health News," conducted outreach/education at various tribes and health care facilities, and is developing a webpage for tribal relations to serve as a resource for tribes and health care providers.

The following outreach and education activities have been conducted in relation to the topics described above. The activities span the period from May 10, 2006 – September 1, 2006.

- Staff from the Division of Fee for Service Management (DFSM) conducted a conference call with Sage Memorial Hospital on May 10, 2006 to follow up on AHCCCS billing questions.
- The Office of Intergovernmental Relations conducted a Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) Implementation conference call open to tribes, Indian Health Service/Tribal Organizations/Urban Indian Clinics (I/T/Us), and interested parties on May 22, 2006. The Governor's Policy Advisor on Tribal Affairs and the tribal liaisons from AHCCCS, ADHS, and DES were in attendance.

- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFSM staff met with the Navajo Nation Division of Health on May 23, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFSM staff met with the Hopi Health Care Center on May 24, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFSM staff met with the Health Director of the White Mountain Apache Tribe on May 25, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFSM staff met with the Health Director of the San Carlos Apache Tribe on May 26, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison presented to the Arizona Indian Council on Aging on June 7, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFSM staff met with the Health Director of the Hopi Tribe on June 9, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and AHCCCS Division of Member Services policy staff conducted a presentation at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center's Patient Business Office meeting on June 14, 2006.
- The AHCCCS Director and designated staff met with the Navajo Nation Division of Health and Information Technology staff on June 16, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison met with the Community Health Representative Program and tribal members at the Kaibab-Paiute Tribe on June 20, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison provided an update on June 23, 2006 to the Phoenix Indian Medical Center executive staff at the AHCCCS/PIMC Meeting.
- The AHCCCS Director, Office of Intergovernmental Relations, and DMS policy staff met with the Navajo Area Indian Health Service Director on June 26, 2006.
- DMS and DFSM staff met with IHS Contract Health Services staff from facilities within the Navajo Area IHS on June 28, 2006.
- The Office of Intergovernmental Relations met with the Navajo Nation Division of Health on June 29, 2006.
- DFSM conducted a conference call with the Sage Memorial Hospital business office on June 30, 2006.



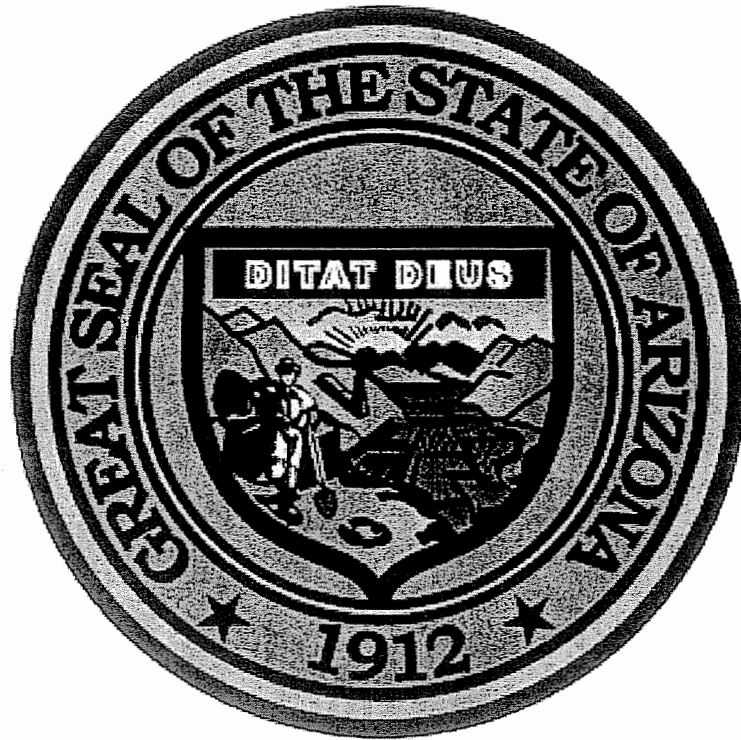
- The Office of Intergovernmental Relations conducted a follow-up DRA Implementation conference call on July 6, 2006 for tribes, I/T/Us and related organizations.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison met with and provided an update to Ken Poocha, Executive Director, for the Arizona Commission on Indian Affairs on July 7, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison conducted a presentation at the Hopi Tribe to the Senior Center Directors and Elderly Outreach Coordinator on July 10, 2006.
- AHCCCS participated in the Tri-State Navajo Nation Information Technology (IT) workgroup on July 10, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFMS staff met with Public Health Nursing from the Gila River Health Care Corporation on July 18, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFMS policy staff presented an update at the Navajo Area Indian Health Service Business Office Managers Meeting in Gallup, NM on July 19, 2006.
- AHCCCS participated in a conference call with the Tri-State Navajo Nation IT workgroup on July 19, 2006.
- The AHCCCS Director and Tribal Relations Liaison participated in the Navajo Tri-State Medicaid Directors Meeting held on July 21, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFMS staff met with the Executive Director and staff of Health and Human Services for the Tohono O'odham Nation on July 26, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFMS staff met with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Centered Spirit Program on July 27, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison presented to the Hopi Tribe Elderly Committee on August 8, 2006.
- DMS staff, Tribal Relations Liaison, and DFMS staff provided an update to the Tuba City Regional Health Care Center on August 9, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFMS staff gave a brief update to the White Mountain Apache Tribe Health Program Director and staff on August 10, 2006.

- The Tribal Relations Liaison, DFSM staff, and Information Services Division met with the Phoenix Area IHS staff to discuss NPI implementation.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison co-presented with the Medicaid agencies in New Mexico and Utah at the Navajo Area Indian Health Board Meeting in Albuquerque, NM on August 18, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFSM conducted a conference call with the Tohono O'odham Nation Department of Health and Human Services on August 22, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFSM staff provided an update to the Navajo Nation Division of Behavioral Health Services on August 23, 2006.
- The Tribal Relations Liaison and DFSM staff met with Sage Memorial Hospital business office staff and participated in the Board of Directors meeting on August 24, 2006.

Ongoing communication ensures that accurate and up-to-date information is provided to AHCCCS providers. This is imperative because the majority of providers are located in rural and isolated areas. AHCCCS continues to identify opportunities in which communication can be improved to reach IHS and tribal providers.

### Conclusion

AHCCCS is committed to working to improve the accessibility and availability of quality health care for all AHCCCS members, including American Indian AHCCCS members. AHCCCS looks forward to continue its partnerships with the Indian Health Service, tribes, and other providers to ensure appropriate financing and improve the delivery of health care for American Indian AHCCCS members. For more information, you may contact Carol Chicharello, AHCCCS Tribal Relations Liaison at (602) 417-4610 or [carol.chicharello@azahcccs.gov](mailto:carol.chicharello@azahcccs.gov).



**Summit Progress Report**  
for  
**Arizona Department of  
Health Services**

**September 14, 2006**

**DIRECTOR**  
Sue Gerard

**TRIBAL LIAISON**  
Michael Allison  
Native American Liaison

**Arizona Department of Health Services  
Tribal Leaders Summit Report  
9-14-06**

**Office of the Director**

The Arizona Department of Health Services has been actively involved in many of the Governor's Tribal Summits. Our staff has been working to address the issues raised at the Tribal Summits on Health (June 2003), Children's Issues (February 2005), Substance Abuse (May 2005), and Behavioral Health (May 2006). Below is a list of activities undertaken since the most recent Tribal Summit.

**Native American Liaison**

Michael Allison, Native American Liaison, provided on-going training and technical assistance, board membership services, advocacy, and network communications for and on behalf of the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Arizona Native American health care community to enhance overall working relationships and service delivery.

Training and Technical Assistance activities included participation on an ADHS Well Women's Health Check Program (WWHP) planning committee planning the sponsorship of three one day "Working with Native American Communities" workshops which were held on 1/25-27/06 in Phoenix, provided technical assistance to ADHS and AHCCCS personnel in working with the Chinle Assisted Living Center for Medicaid billing, provided overall coordination for delivery of a bio-terrorism/emergency preparedness training workshop in Window Rock, Navajo Nation on 4/10/06, provided on-going technical assistance to the Governor's Advisory Council on Health, Physical Fitness & Sports (GACHPF&S) for increased involvement of Native American tribes and entities.

Board Membership Services activities included Council and Ex-officio Commission membership on the Advisory Council on Indian Health Care (ACOIHC) and the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs (ACIA). ACOIHC activities included attendance at Council meetings and participation on the Council's Strategic Planning and Personnel Committees. ACIA activities included attendance at Commission board meetings and attendance at the ACIA sponsored events.

Advocacy activities included on-going advocacy for increased tribal and Indian Health Service involvement in the ADHS emergency preparedness and response programs including hospital preparedness and Pandemic Flu preparedness, development and approval of an overall ADHS strategy planning outline for making tribal services a priority. Initiatives from this outline included the development of a draft Department Tribal Consultation Policy in line with

Governor Napolitano's directive to Agency Directors to issue tribal consultation policies, the initiation of a Native American Data Collection and Analysis Strategic Planning Committee, and the initial scheduling of site visits by Director Gerard to reservation, Urban Indian program, and IHS sites.

## **Division of Behavioral Health Services**

The Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services maintains intergovernmental agreements with four tribal nations, which includes Gila River Indian Community, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Navajo Nation and the Colorado River Indian Tribes. The intergovernmental agreements are funded with a combination of federal and state funding sources, which include AHCCCS (Medicaid) funds, state appropriated funds and federal block grant funds. Each intergovernmental agreement is unique in its funding methodology and is designed specific to each tribe and includes contract deliverables within interim monitoring, as well as reporting requirements.

Two tribes function as a Tribal Behavioral Health Authority (TRBHA) and the Division of Behavioral Health Services is required to conduct an annual administrative review of the financial and operational systems. The review teams use of a monitoring tool, which consists of operational and financial standards, and the TRBHA is scored on its contract compliance performance in various areas, such as clinical services, quality management, financial management, customer service, and policies and procedures. To ensure the TRBAs are prepared for the administrative reviews, Ms. Julie Ysaguirre, Tribal RBHA Coordinator, conducts trainings and also coordinates quarterly meetings with TRBHA management staff.

TRBHA's Administrative Review: In the past few months, the Division of Behavioral Health Services has been preparing for the 2006 Administrative Review of Tribal and Regional Behavioral Health Authorities. This year's review cycle began on August 9, 2006 when the Gila River Tribal Behavioral Health Authority delivered documents for the pre-site review conducted by the Division. On August 17, 2006 the Monitoring and Oversight Team from the Clinical & Recovery Section reviewed clinical records at the Gila River Tribal Behavioral Health Authority offices. The Division is currently preparing interview questions and will be conducting an on-site review toward the end of August. The Administrative Review for the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authority will begin in late October and proceed through early November.

As the Contract Administrator for the Tribal Behavioral Health Authorities, Ms. Julia Ysaguirre is the point of contact and will be leading the team for the on-site review and is responsible for consolidation of the finds, drafting a report, obtaining input from the Tribal Behavioral Health Authorities, initiating Corrective Actions Plans and submitting a final report summary with an analysis of the findings.

Tribal Intergovernmental Agreements: Ms. Ysaguirre also has administrative oversight of two additional intergovernmental agreements with the Navajo Nation and the Colorado River Indian Tribes. Ms. Ysaguirre has been involved in assisting the Navajo Nation Behavioral Health Authority in increasing coordination of services with tribal and federal facilities of the Indian Health Service. The Navajo Nation Tribal Behavioral Health Authority has expanded remote access to two of their program sites that allow case managers to enter client records into the State's behavioral health system, and is continuing to enhance their systems to improve customer service. In the past four months, Ms. Ysaguirre has provided two trainings to case managers of the Navajo Nation Tribal Behavioral Health Authority and a local provider. Ms. Ysaguirre also serves as the point of contact and provides technical guidance to the Navajo Nation Tribal Behavioral Health Authority.

Tribal Coordination with RBHAs: The Colorado River Indian Tribes has a signed intergovernmental agreement with the Department that is funded with state subvention funds, and is designed for the tribe to serve members who are not eligible for AHCCCS and are in need of higher levels of care not available in the local coordinate services with the local Regional Behavioral Health Authority, Cenpatico. In recent months, Cenpatico has been conducting conference calls with the tribal governments located in their geographic service area, and has initiated discussions to implement memorandums of agreements with tribal governments for the provision of services and funding as a pass through mechanism from the Division to the tribal government. Cenpatico has met with the tribal Council from the Ak-Chin Indian Community, and is currently working with the tribal government to initiate prevention programs in the community.

The Maricopa County-based RBHA, Value Options, is meeting on a monthly basis with the Phoenix Indian Medical Center (PIMC), a facility of the Indian Health Service, to improve coordination of services for patients needing services not available at PIMC. Additionally, Value Options and PIMC have extended an invitation to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and have initiated discussions on improving communications and coordination of care. The Division has also partnered with the AHCCCS Administration to resolve policy issues surrounding the reimbursement of behavioral health services for Native American AHCCCS members that enter the behavioral health system and continue to receive services at IHS and tribal facilities.

The Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA) recently held its Embrace Life Summit which provided a vast array of suicide prevention workshops for Native American youth. The conference provided suicide awareness and prevention skills workshops. This was the second annual event and took place on August 25th and 26th in Flagstaff, Arizona, at Northern Arizona University's du Bois Center. NARBHA staff was the conference emcee and were very excited about the vision for positive outcomes for Native American Youth. NARBHA will be forming a planning committee, which will be responsible for developing a statewide youth leadership institute for Native American high

school students. The committee will be made of both youth and adults, empowering young leaders to take responsibility for their futures.

State Infrastructure Grant Funds to Tribal Governments: Under the State Infrastructure Grant (SIG), the Division will be providing funds and working with contracted RBHAs to fund prevention activities in Native American communities for tribal governments who do not currently have an intergovernmental agreement with the Department. Here are a few of the proposed uses of SIG funds for tribal communities.

- The Ak-Chin Indian Community will be funded through Cenpatico and will use the funds to sponsor a community health fair with a local crisis provider on substance abuse prevention.
- The San Carlos Apache Tribe will be funded through Cenpatico to purchase teleconferencing equipment and suicide prevention curricula.
- Community Partnership of Southern Arizona (CPSA) will be providing funds to a local provider to work with the Tohono O'odham Nation for the delivery of suicide and substance abuse prevention activities.
- The Hopi Tribe will be funded through Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA) who will subcontract with the Hopi Guidance Center for the planning of conference on methamphetamine abuse.
- The Hualapai Tribe will be receiving funds through NARBHA to sponsor a Methamphetamine Awareness Day that will be organized by the Tribe's Youth Council in a health fair fashion to include speakers and information tables to education youth on substance abuse issue.
- NARBHA will be providing funds to the White Mountain Apache Tribe for the purchase of a training module, *Protecting You, Protecting Me*, which is a science-based alcohol use prevention curriculum for school-age children.

Tribal Community Accomplishments and Updates: The Gila River TRBHA held a Meth Awareness Day on May 24, 2006 that provided information to tribal members on substance abuse and direction in accessing services for treatment. Speakers included law enforcement agencies, community social services and youth programs, and behavioral health providers. Additionally, the Division provided Gila River TRBHA with funds to implement Methamphetamine treatment program, MATRIX. The program event was highlighted in one of the local newspapers.

The Gila River TRBHA has also initiated a housing project for persons with severe mental illness, and received funds from the Division. The TRBHA is working with local tribal officials for the designation of land and to begin building the necessary infrastructure to support the housing project. The TRBHA has almost completed their telemedicine capability with funds provided by the Division. Pascua Yaqui TRBHA will use SIG funds to purchase materials related to identification of behavioral health problems and referrals to treatment services.

Ms. Ysaguirre has provided the TRBHA with technical assistance and guidance with the TRBHAs contract deliverables and reporting requirements. She will be providing training to TRBHA staff for the upcoming administrative review. The Pascua Yaqui TRBHA sponsored a suicide prevention conference, in conjunction with their neighboring tribe, the Tohono O'odham Nation, in which over 300 Native American youth attended. The TRBHA is also working on implementing telemedicine capability with funds provided by the Division.

Ms. Ysaguirre has also met with representatives from Apache Behavioral Health Service, a tribal provider of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, who has submitted a request to enter into an intergovernmental agreement for the administration and delivery of behavioral health services to tribal members. Apache Behavioral Health Services has taken on the task of drafting an agreement and a proposed budget to begin the negotiation process. The Division and AHCCCS are currently working to resolve policy issues regarding reimbursement methodologies for tribal programs that enter into agreements with the Department for the administration and delivery of behavioral health services as covered under the AHCCCS administration.

Substance Abuse Coordination Grant: The Division's Clinical & Recovery Services section is involved in conducting community focus groups to gain information on the adolescent and young adult population with diagnosis of substance use disorder, and who may be currently receiving treatment. The focus groups will include parents and family members, program directors, clinical supervisors, line clinicians, therapist and clinical liaisons. The goal is to gain an understanding of the constituent groups' view of substance abuse treatment services, and how those systems and services can be enhanced to promote improved outcomes. The SAC grant will establish state level infrastructure and provider network support. A team of three staff is designated to lead, and give direction and support to these efforts. The team will work closely with family organizations, other state agencies and community based agencies to seek their input and to collaborate in the planning, implementing and development of resources. The primary objective is to identify strategies that function well for engaging young adults and adolescents in treatment programs and services, and to use this information to educate state policy makers and behavioral health practitioners. The SAC grant initiated their focus groups in July 2006 with coordination with the RBHAs and TRBHAs, and is expected to continue through early September.

Addressing Alcohol Abuse and Methamphetamine on Reservations: ADHS released infrastructure development plan requests to all RBHAs and TRBHAs for development of rural detoxification centers and follow-up services in areas of the state with high levels of need for substance abuse services and limited local resources. The plans will be funded through a \$2.5M appropriation to DHS passed in the 2006 General Session. An internal selection committee will review the plans and make awards by November 2006.



Expanding Access to Behavioral Health Services: New rates were established for Therapeutic Foster Care in July 2006 that allows tribal foster care providers to be paid at a rate in line with market rates for this service in non-reservation areas.

## **Division of Public Health Services**

### **Office of Health System Development**

Native American Community Development Program (NACDP): Outreach activities were conducted to 15 tribes, 3 urban Indian centers, and the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona. Outreach activities were to notify tribal health departments of the NACDP and other programs within the Office of Health Systems Development (OHSD). The NACDP is a collaborative project between ADHS, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the three Indian Health Service Area Offices in Arizona.

The NACDP manager was involved in several internal committees including the Tribal Cancer Initiative group, the Center for Minority Health Internal Advisory Committee, the Office of Children with Special Health Care Needs Integrated Service Grant- Cultural Competency Committee, and Native American Grant Writing Planning Committee. Through the US DHHS Region IX Office of Minority Health funds were secured to put on basic grant writing trainings for the Native American population in Arizona. Planning is still in its initial stages with the completion of grant activities to be completed by July 2007. The program manager also participated on several external committees including the AzCCC Cancer Disparities Committee, the ITCA Southwest American Indian Cancer Network- Training and Education Core , and the Arizona Policy Training Institute planning committee.

Unique to the NACDP is an advisory council comprised of seven members representing the Navajo IHS Area Office, the Phoenix IHS Area Office, the Tucson Area IHS Office, ADHS, the Arizona Association of Community Health Centers, and the Native Americans for Community Action, Inc. A tribal representative is still being recruited. On June 28, 2006 the first quarterly advisory council meeting was conducted.

Center for Minority Health: Collaborative Community Project mini-grant funding opportunity information was sent out to Native American tribal and urban communities. The Center for Minority Health received 4 applications from tribal and urban Native American programs. Two of the proposals were funded in the amount of \$999 each for the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the Native American Community Health Center, Inc.

### **Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Nutrition**

Arizona Nutrition Network (AzNN): The program provided food demonstration training on May 8 and 9 in Chinle, Arizona. Most participants were community

and supporting partners of the Ilná Coalition that works to assist community organizations in collaborative health and wellness programs. Five kits with approximately \$350 worth of kitchen equipment were distributed. The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and the Arizona Nutrition Network also collaborated to add nutrition education activities to the USDA Fresh Fruit & Vegetable (F/V) Program implemented in 5 schools on the Tohono O'odham Reservation and 3 schools on the Gila River Indian Community Reservation. Information on the Arizona Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program in tribal schools was presented at the National Fruit and Vegetable Stakeholder Conference in Seattle, Washington in June of 2006. The program will continue in the 2006-2007 school year.

Comprehensive Cancer Control (AzCCC): The program hosted a Women's Health and Cancer Forum on February 24. The Forum featured Dr. Laura Tillman, Chief of Surgery at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center. She presented *Breast Cancer in Native American Women Treated at an Urban-based Indian Health Referral Center, 1982-2003*. The CCC Program also hosted a Colorectal Cancer Screening Forum on May 12. Dr. Peter Lance of the Arizona Cancer Center in Tucson presented on his colorectal studies with the Navajo population. In addition, the CCC's Disparities Committee hosted the "Reducing Cancer Disparities in Arizona" Conference on June 19 in which two breakout sessions featured health issues focusing on the Native American population. Dr. Tillman, Chief of Surgery at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center presented *Breast Cancer in Native American Women Treated at Phoenix Indian Medical Center, 1983-2003*. Lori Martin of the Hopi Women's Health Program presented on *Hopi Women's Health Program: Overview and Future Directions*.

Diabetes Prevention and Control Program: The program is providing funding for diabetes education activities in the Town of Guadalupe. This community is 48% Pascua Yaqui, 49% Mexican American and 3% white non-Hispanic in composition.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Program: The program supported incentive items that encourage healthy eating and being active to native youth during the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Youth Camp held at Scottsdale Community College June 19-23.

Steps to a Healthier US Program: The program conducted pre-testing of creative concepts among Tohono O'odham Nation residents for social marketing campaign designed to promote physical activity in families with children in 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades for prevention of obesity, addressing the related risk of diabetes.

Well Woman Health Check Program (WWHP): The WWHP and the Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan sponsored three, one-day Native American Cultural Competency Trainings that took place 1/24-1/26. Participants included WWHP contractors, Comprehensive Cancer Coalition members, and ADHS employees. A Tribal Cancer Initiative Workgroup was formed in February as a

result of the cultural competency training. The workgroup is developing a strategic plan to improve communication and collaboration with the 21 Arizona tribes. On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the WWHP presented program information at the Southwest Native American Coalition to Reduce Cancer. On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the WWHP provided education to benefits coordinators at Phoenix Indian Medical Center on the Well Woman program and how to refer women to the program. On June 9<sup>th</sup>, the WWHP met with CDC tribal liaison and Phoenix Indian Medical Center (PIMC) to discuss opportunities to increase access to Native American women. The program is pursuing the possibility of contracting with PIMC as a Well Woman provider.

Arizona WIC Program: The program's Integrity Unit has been working with the ITCA, Inc. to identify dual participation in the Arizona and ITCA WIC Programs. The Dual Participation Agreement between the Arizona WIC Program, the Navajo Nation, and the ITCA was signed by all parties and is now in effect. In addition, the Arizona WIC program, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc., and Navajo Nation WIC Programs held its quarterly Tri-State Coordination meeting on February 14, 2006. Areas of focus were food package coordination, implementation of Vendor cost containment status reports, and sharing of program materials. The ITCA WIC Program and the Arizona WIC Program also attended Civil Rights Training together on April 26, 2006.

### **Tobacco Education and Prevention Program**

Monthly ongoing program activities (on/off reservations) continued with the program's 10 tribal and urban Indian contractors. Activities included community education, youth collation groups, school intervention, cessation (Phoenix/Tucson), collaboration meetings county health departments/contracted tribes/contracted Urban Indian Health Centers, provider training, presentations, public services announcements, and events. Highlighted activities, noted below, are the major collaborative efforts.

Ongoing Activities: Technical assistance for infrastructure development for ITCA and the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), monthly collaboration meetings with Phoenix Indian Medical Center (PIMC), quarterly Community Advisory Tobacco Coalition Meeting (ITCA, GRIC, Hopi Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Pascua Yaqui Tribe (PYT), Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRP-MIC), Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT), White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT), KPT, Native Americans for Community Action, Inc. (NACA), Native Health, Tucson Indian Center, Inc. (TIC), ADHS-TEPP), monthly meetings with ITCA (ITCA, ADHS-TEPP), Native Visions Coalition Meetings (Native Health, PIMC, ADHS-TEPP, ITCA), Monthly American Indian Youth Conference Planning Meetings (ITCA, ADHS-TEPP, Hualapai Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Native Health, NACA, TIC, SRP-MIC, CRIT)

Activities (past six months): January 17 State Legislature Indian Nation and Tribes Day (ADHS Booth), January 18 Traditional Story Telling Event (ITCA, Native Health), provided sponsorship and Native American Legislation Day

(ADHS booth), February 18 Tucson Indian Health Event (TIC, PYT, Tohono O'odham Tribe, I.H.S., AHCCCS, DES, ADHS, UA College of Public Health), March 23-24 Urban Disability Conference (ITCA, Native Health), provided sponsorship, April 5 Kick Butts Day (ITCA, Hualapai Tribe, May 31 World No Tobacco Day (ITCA, Hualapai Tribe)

### **Office of Women's and Children's Health**

Community Health Program: The program funds a grant awarded to the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) that has the goal of reducing the rate of death and injury to American Indian children and women resulting from motor vehicle crashes. ITCA distributes child car safety seats to all 19 tribes in the Council. Each participating tribe has a certified National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) technician distribute the child car safety seats to the tribal parent/caregiver and educate them on proper use and installation. A community awareness campaign encourages correct seat belt use for American Indian women, including correct seat belt use during pregnancy.

Family Violence/Domestic Violence Program: The program funds a Native American domestic violence service provider in Chinle, AZ. Ama Doo Alchini Bighan (ADABI) has received Family Violence Prevention Services funds from the department since 1998. ADHS has been one of the sponsors of ADABI's annual Native American Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Networking and Awareness Conference for the past two years. ADHS will again be a sponsor of the third annual conference in August, 2006. ADABI serves the Navajo Nation and provides temporary emergency safe shelter, case management, crisis intervention, group and individual therapy work for victims of domestic violence. The agency also has a Batterers Intervention Program. ADABI has been instrumental in the development of Native American domestic violence coalition efforts in Arizona.

Two other Rural Safe Home Network contractors provide services to persons living on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation. Mt. Graham Safe House in Safford, and the Gila County Safe Home in Globe are in close proximity to persons living on the reservation and provide women seeking safety from domestic violence with shelter and other necessary services as requested.

Rape Prevention and Education Program: The "Rape Prevention & Education" Program (RPEP) funds services provided by Ama Doo Alchini Bighan (ADABI). ADABI is active in presenting rape prevention and education by providing prevention activities for schools, businesses, social service providers and others throughout the area. Also, with a nomination from the Program Manager of RPEP, Cheryl Teller and Rob Taylor won as "Outstanding Prevention Professional Award" at the annual Sexual Assault Conference held March 31, 2006, in Phoenix, Arizona. The award was presented personally by Governor Janet Napolitano.

Health Start Program: The program contracts with Native American Community Health Center, Inc. to provide Health Start Services to Native Americans located in central and west Phoenix. The services provided include connecting pregnant or postpartum women with community resources that provide prenatal and related infant and child services. In addition, families are followed for two years after the birth of the child to assist with identification of a "medical home" for each family member and to encourage immunizations for all children in the family. They also provide education on normal child development and parenting skills, and serve as a referral source in the identification of children with special needs.

Injury Prevention Program: The program has been involved in several tribal outreach activities during the current reporting period. They are as follows: April 21 presented at the Elders Conference on child passenger safety for the Inter Tribal Council of AZ, April 24-26 co-taught certification training on child passenger safety training in Whiteriver, April 27 & 28 taught a one-day course on injury prevention to White Mountain EMS, added the injury prevention coordinator from WMAT to the ADHS Injury Prevention Advisory Council (IPAC), recertified 6 WMAT car seat technicians at an event in Pinetop May 13, June 5-8 co-taught certification training on child passenger safety training for Hopi, and June 6 met with Tony Huma to discuss Hopi EMS involvement in pre-hospital data collection.

Upcoming: Scheduled a certification child passenger safety class for Hualapi (Peach Springs) at the request of Police Chief Bradley for October 25-28. and November 15-16 hold a recertification training and car seat check for Inter Tribal Council of AZ.

### **Bureau of Public Health Statistics**

The Bureau Medical Director, Dr Tim Flood, has begun discussions with the Hopi Tribe concerning the exchange of cancer and birth defects data. The work with cancer data will be in support of a project to define the Hopi Tribe's cancer burden. Sylvia Brown from the University of Arizona is the main contact on this project. Statewide cancer data is reported to the state's central cancer registry; this will be a valuable resource for the Tribe. The Bureau is in discussion concerning an agreement that will authorize the exchange. Similar discussions are taking place to clarify the ADHS role in ascertaining birth defects data.

The Bureau is working with ITCA and the ADHS Comprehensive Cancer Control project to define the opportunities to intervene and control cancer in Indian country. The Bureau is available to generate reservation-specific rates of death from motor vehicle crashes. This is one of the most glaring health disparities when mortality data is analyzed by race group. Further information on this project can be obtained directly from Dr Flood, [floodt@azdhs.gov](mailto:floodt@azdhs.gov).

## **Bureau of Emergency Preparedness and Response**

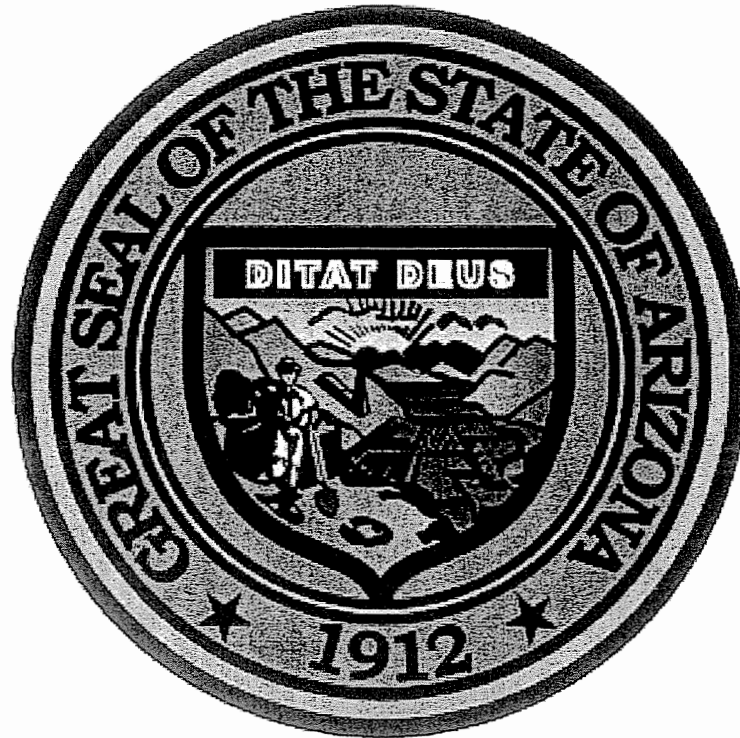
Monthly Tribal Conference calls are held on the third Thursday of each month which include participation of the Tribal Bioterrorism Coordinators, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Indian Health Service and the Bureau to provide a forum to discuss matters dealing with the CDC Cooperative Agreement, Tribal, ITCA and IHS deliverables, and other issues relating to Tribal Bioterrorism and Public Health Emergency Preparedness. A day-long meeting was held with our Tribal, ITCA and IHS partners on June 8, 2006 to provide assistance on how to address each of their CDC Cooperative Agreement deliverables.

Site Visits have been made by the Tribal Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Africa Dorame. Tribal Site visits include Gila River Indian Community, Ak-Chin Indian Community, Tohono O'odham Nation, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, and White Mountain Apache Tribe. Tribal, ITCA and IHS partners were invited to participate in the Walk the Wall session on June 29, 2006. The event provided an opportunity for our Tribal, ITCA and IHS partners to provide input and discussion of proposed concepts for the FY 2006-2007 CDC Public Health Emergency Preparedness and HRSA National BT Hospital Preparedness Program.

The Tribal Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Africa Dorame attended the Current Issues in Bioterrorism Response Conference sponsored by ITCA that was held on May 23 and 24, 2006. Topics such as coordination efforts in Tribal Communities, bioterrorism and water systems security, Safe Drinking Water Act, NIMS, Inter-governmental Agreements, and Homeland Security were discussed.

## **Division of Licensing Services**

During this reporting period the Division of Licensing Services (DLS), through the Office of Assisted Living Licensing (OALL), provided both on-site and telephone technical assistance to the Navajoland Nursing Home entity known as Navajo Land Assisted Living. A team of leader from the OALL made a courtesy inspection visit to the facility on April 25, 2006. A letter was issued advising the Administrator of Navajo Land Assisted Living to the effect that if the facility was located on non-tribal land it would be licensed. The DLS was proud to be a participant in the project and looks forward to working with the Navajo Nation.



**Summit Progress Report**  
for  
**Arizona Department of  
Housing**

**September 14, 2006**

**DIRECTOR**  
Sheila Harris

**TRIBAL LIAISON**  
Eric Descheenie

## **Arizona Department of Housing**

### **Governor's Tribal Housing Initiative History**

The Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) was created by the Legislature and became a full state agency in October 2002. The Department's mission and origin was documented in a report published in 2000, "The State of Housing 2000" Also identified in this report was the need to assist tribes in the coordination of housing development and affordability initiatives on tribal lands. In an effort to target resources to Arizona's tribal lands, the ADOH created a Tribal Liaison position to assist tribes with developing partnerships and accessing ADOH funding for tribal housing projects.

### **The Governor's Tribal Housing Initiative**

To begin the process of removing barriers to the development of tribal housing, ADOH hosted a Governor's Tribal Housing Initiative Workshop. Tribal leaders, tribal housing professionals, financial institutions, tribal housing consultants, Federal, and State agencies were invited to participate in a two-part session that provided resources for housing development and a session to develop a strategic plan to increasing housing opportunities on tribal lands. This workgroup agreed to create a Statewide Task Force that would begin to develop a strategic plan for addressing the issues identified at the Tribal Summit on Housing in September 2003. At the conclusion of the workshop, Governor Napolitano announced a \$2.5 million fund available for tribes to develop new or rehabilitate existing housing on tribal lands. The Statewide Task Force then adopted a strategy to address four key areas - infrastructure, needs assessments, financial literacy and legal frameworks for private finance of tribal projects forming an Executive Committee and four subcommittees for study, one for each key area.

### **Infrastructure Subcommittee**

Infrastructure is a critical component to housing development; tribes in rural Arizona continue to lack basic infrastructure, power, water and sewer. The *Infrastructure Subcommittee* was created to assist tribes on a one on one basis in reviewing needs assessments, and identify infrastructure needs. The committee was created to assist tribes with recommendations based on previous experiences and provide tribes with alternatives for meeting infrastructure needs.

Under the Native American Housing Assistance Self Determination Act (NAHASDA), tribes receive a block grant for housing that includes funding for infrastructure. Prior to NAHASDA, the Indian Health Service (IHS) funded infrastructure, however, since the passage of NAHASDA, funding infrastructure with IHS resources for NAHASDA housing is prohibited. This presents a significant funding challenge for tribes. One subcommittee function was to recruit



other state and federal agencies that could assist tribes with funding, technical assistance and planning housing development. Once recruited, the collected agencies would dispense project-specific advice on project development tasks and necessary pre-funding steps. The meetings allowed the opportunity for tribes and agencies to begin a dialogue and discuss tribal projects, and served to educate tribes' agencies' pre-funding requirements. Participating agencies received in-depth information on tribal needs.

Through these meetings, partnerships were established between tribes and infrastructure agencies. Agencies provided resource materials that tribes may utilize as reference materials when considering funding. A number of tribal infrastructure updates were presented by tribes; some tribes were currently working with agencies and others were in need of technical assistance to begin the planning stages. The subcommittee produced an infrastructure resource directory, a resource library of agency presentations and materials and provided a much-needed forum for dialogue between tribes and agencies. The need for infrastructure resources to develop housing or create economic development will continue to challenge tribal communities, specifically those tribes located in rural areas. Tribes that participated in the committee meetings have received valuable information from agencies willing to support infrastructure projects located on tribal lands. Tribes must utilize the various agencies to obtain funding for infrastructure development. Through community assessments and leveraging additional resources projects can be constructed to improve housing and economies in tribal communities.

### **Financial Education Subcommittee**

The need for basic financial education is critical in tribal communities. Without a basic knowledge of financial education and effective financial management, the opportunity for homeownership may be difficult to achieve given the additional barriers in tribal communities. Financial education emphasizes the importance of building asset wealth and provides learning on money management skills, programs available from lending institutions, and the benefits to equity in homeownership.

The *Financial Education Subcommittee's* objectives were to identify existing financial education resources, define a mechanism to provide financial education on an ongoing basis and to develop a training calendar for tribes on financial education. A number of representatives participated in the committee meetings including tribal leaders, government agencies, non-profit organizations, financial institutions, tribal housing professionals, and educational institutions. Through the work of the subcommittee, steps were identified to assist tribes to strengthen and expand financial education initiatives and future efforts.

The subcommittee produced tribal definitions of financial education, identified tribal needs related to financial education, created the *Arizona Tribal*

*Resource Guide to Financial Education* and developed a training calendar for FY 2005 which includes three workshops for tribal communities and trainers interested in offering financial education to tribal communities. The training is being coordinated by ADOH.

### **Needs Assessment Subcommittee**

A needs assessment is a planning effort critical to housing development. The data collected through a needs assessment process provides statistical evidence of unmet housing needs, describes current and future housing demands as well as what the current market can afford. In addition, assessments allow for tribes to identify need, while incorporating culture and tradition in the design phase. Tribes in Arizona have recognized the need for assessment surveys to secure funding and demonstrate the need for housing development. The *Needs Assessment Subcommittee* sought to identify existing assessment models, develop a model for tribal use, identify which tribes need assistance in conducting assessments and conduct a sample survey with a volunteer tribe. A number of representatives participated in committee meetings including tribal leaders, State and Federal agencies, tribal housing professionals and tribal consultants.

The subcommittee identified existing tribal assessments and data management tools, gathered information on funding sources for assessments and developed a short guide to conducting an assessment with suggestions for a successful data collection process including a tribal assessment model.

### **Legal Documents Subcommittee**

Private finance for the development of housing on tribal lands has continued to languish due to the lack of legal instruments for private finance of tribal housing and an ongoing lack of understanding about the typical mortgage process. The *Legal Document Subcommittee* was formed to review existing model legal codes with tribes, identify legal barriers within tribal codes or within lender organizations, and to define an information-sharing process to ensure tribes and lenders are aware of available tools.

The subcommittee examined the legal framework that is necessary to conduct mortgages on tribal lands and the security instruments involved. To accomplish this, the subcommittee reviewed currently approved legal model documents from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service (RHS), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Arizona lenders and some tribes. Overall, the subcommittee reviewed all existing legal documents, developed a resource directory for legal documents and conducted a workshop on housing codes and ordinances with tribal judges.

To date, 11 of 22 Arizona tribal governments have adopted the necessary legal instruments that allow for private finance on tribal trust and allotted land. The various mortgage programs available through Federal, State and local agencies should be marketed to community members through tribal housing staff, local homeownership fairs and lending program materials. The subcommittee work educated participants, addressed legal concerns and most importantly, generated interest on the part of local lenders to pursue the offering of mortgages on tribal lands. Encouraged by the state's efforts in this area, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has certified the entire state as Section 184 eligible allowing tribal members to utilize this federal mortgage finance guarantee program anywhere in the state including non-tribal lands. This is a significant development for tribal members making homeownership and wealth building easier through this expanded 184 Program access. The certification was announced on March 30, 2005.

### **Additional Arizona Department of Housing Activities**

In addition to the committee work, ADOH has awarded the entire \$ 2.5 million from the tribal set aside to housing development projects on tribal lands and has set aside an equal amount of state Housing Trust Fund dollars for the project year beginning on July 1, 2005. In addition, since the Governor's Tribal Summit on Housing, ADOH has made four Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) awards to tribes. (*See chart below for awards listing*). Currently, the Department is working with the Navajo Nation to open the first ever tribally located Homes for Arizonans Program (mortgage revenue bond financing and down payment and closing cost assistance offered through the Arizona Housing Finance Authority) office to encourage the use of this program for homeownership on the Navajo Nation.

Internally, ADOH has used the summit findings and subcommittee work to modify its procedures and educate housing staff on the unique needs and challenges facing tribes developing housing projects. This has included work by our assistant attorney general to craft new grant and loan agreements that respect tribal law while effectively protecting state resources, tribal liaison training activities for all department staff on tribal housing needs and strategies to use ADOH resources on tribal lands, and dedicated tribal housing tracks at major ADOH housing development workshops. ADOH outreach efforts have resulted in the creation of a much more effective network for communicating with tribes, a network used weekly to let tribes know about events, meetings and training opportunities that may further encourage housing development. In addition, ADOH has co-sponsored financial education events and conferences on construction on tribal lands.

ADOH technical assistance staff provides local governments, tribes, public housing authorities, Regional Councils of Government, and other state agencies with the necessary guidance needed to apply for funding to ADOH. The Tribal

Liaison has been working with tribes to develop housing needs assessments in preparation for housing development. One particular community in which ADOH has agreed to assist with the development of a community master plan is with the Shonto Chapter, located within the boundaries of the Navajo Nation.

Additional technical assistance is being offered through the Affordable Housing Institute (AHI). The AHI is designed to educate participants about the various stages of housing development process, which includes, the planning process, accessing public and private resources, and long-term management. This year participating in the AHI, two out of the three projects are on tribal lands. The San Xavier District within the Tohono O'odham Nation is developing an elderly project located near the San Xavier Mission. The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Housing Authority is considering a multifamily rental development that would incorporate approximately 100 units. The AHI has recently completed its third meeting and the final meeting will be in mid August.

The objective for both projects is to complete the preliminary planning and be ready to apply for ADOH funding to help support the project financing once the tribe or entity is ready.

#### **Tribal Low Income Tax Credit Awards**

The Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) is one of two states that allow for a tribal set aside in the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program. The LIHTC program is designed for tenants at 60% and below of the area median income (AMI) tenants and can be used to develop new housing or rehabilitate existing housing units. Since 1998, a total of eight tribes have accessed the program resulting in 246 new units and 175 rehabilitated units, totaling 421 tax credit units. In June 2005, the LIHTC awards were announced, a total of 27 projects throughout Arizona received credits, and two tribes received awards. The San Carlos Apache Housing Authority was awarded their first tax credit project to rehabilitate 45 single-family units; the total project cost was \$ 5,262,414. The White Mountain Apache Housing Authority (WAHA) received their third tax credit award from the ADOH, the project will consist of rehabilitating 41 single-family homes, and the total project cost is \$ 6,100,990.

In June, a congressional tour was coordinated by the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) Chairman, Chester Carl; he is also the Executive Director for the Navajo Housing Authority (NHA). The tour was coordinated through local Arizona tribes, including the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, White Mountain Apache Housing Authority, San Carlos Apache Housing Authority, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Tohono O'odham Nation, and the Gila River Indian Community. The purpose of the tour was to highlight creative programs that tribes have utilized to develop housing for community members. The ADOH over the last two years through the Governor's Tribal

Housing Initiative, has provided funding and technical assistance to various tribes and the technical assistance to tribes. The ADOH staff participated in the tour and provided literature to congressional staffers on efforts and projects funded by the ADOH. Of the six tribes visited, the ADOH has provided funding to four and has provided technical assistance and resource presentations to the additional two tribes

### Listing of Low Income Housing Tax Credit Awards

Year	Tribe	No. of Units	LIHTC Award	Tribal Housing Initiative/State Housing Trust Fund Award
2004	Yavapai Apache Nation	16	\$195,979	\$195,979
2004	Hopi Tribe	27	\$238,032	\$238,032
2004	Ak-Chin	25	\$226,055	\$226,058
2004	White Mountain Apache	24	<i>Not requested</i>	\$500,000
2004	Pascua Yaqui Tribe	18	<i>Not requested</i>	\$500,000 ( <i>Tribal set-aside</i> )
2004	Bee Hogan (Navajo Nation)	37	<i>Not requested</i>	\$554,412 ( <i>Tribal set-aside</i> )
2004	Native American Connections	36	\$240,000	\$500,000 ( <i>Tribal set-aside</i> )
2005	Hopi Tribe	250	<i>Not requested</i>	\$500,000 ( <i>Tribal set-aside</i> )
2005	Salt River Pima Maricopa	25	<i>Not requested</i>	\$500,000 ( <i>Tribal set-aside</i> )

In June 2006, ADOH announced the Navajo Nation, San Carlos Apache Tribe, and Fort Mojave Tribe as the recipients of over \$1,750,000 in LIHTC awards for 2006.

### Financial Education

Through efforts of the Governors Tribal Housing Initiative and the committee for financial education, the ADOH coordinated a series of financial education train the trainer workshops in 2005 and sponsored two separate train the trainer programs. In February 2005 the financial education train the trainer program began in Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community with three additional courses coordinated over the course of 2005. The trainings provided information on the Building Native Communities curriculum; Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), the Arizona Saves organization, the Money Smart curriculum, and the Arizona Council on Economic Education.

The NAIHC hosted its Annual Trade Show Convention on June 14, 2005 in Uncasville, CT. The ADOH Tribal Liaison participated on a panel discussion regarding financial education and additional efforts created by the Governor's Tribal Housing Initiative.

In April 2005, the ADOH, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, and Merrill Lynch co sponsored the Building Native Communities training in Phoenix, Arizona. The two-day workshop was designed to help Native people build on their own knowledge and develop personal financial skills while embracing Native culture and traditions. The training provided skills in presenting financial education, information on the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and provided

supportive relationships with other providers of financial education programs in Native communities. There were five Arizona tribes represented, one Indian urban center, and lending institutions that participated in the workshop. In September 2005 the ADOH, the Enterprise Foundation, the U.S. Housing and Urban Development, South West Office of Native American Programs (SWONAP) and Washington Mutual co sponsored the Pathways Home curriculum for tribes in Arizona. The Pathways Home curriculum is a five-day train the trainer course designed to provide the necessary training skills to those individuals who are responsible for educating community members on the home buying process. The training provided materials and methods to train homebuyers to get a mortgage loan, improve on budget and credit profiles, and maintain finances after purchasing a home. The training was very well received with over 35 participants in attendance

The ADOH will continue support the financial education efforts in Arizona for tribes, with tribes adopting the necessary codes for private finance, the financial education component will be necessary for future home owners.

### **2005 Summit on Housing and Infrastructure**

On August 4, 2005 the Governor convened the second summit on housing that was hosted by the Fort Mc Dowell Yavapai Nation in Sedona. The ADOH provided Governor Napolitano and tribal leaders an overview of accomplishments and activities that the agency has undertaken since the initial housing summit in March of 2003. Dr. Sheila Harris provided an overview of the Governors Tribal Housing Initiative which included tribal projects that were awarded with the first tribal set a side of \$ 2.5 million. Entering into the new program for 2007, ADOH continues to dedicate State Housing Trust Funds for tribal housing developments through its tribal set-aside. The set-aside for fiscal year 2007 is \$2.5 million.

### **Arizona Tribal CDFI (ATC)**

Recognizing the enormity of Arizona tribal housing needs, ADOH and the Arizona Housing Finance Authority (AzHFA) have moved to create a nongovernmental entity governed by Native Americans (free standing non-profit organization). As an initial activity, the CDFI will partner with ADOH and AzHFA, and use their housing development and financial expertise to capture CDFI capitalization funds. The concept for a statewide tribal CDFI emerged from Governor Janet Napolitano's 2003 Tribal Housing Summit and subsequent Tribal Housing Initiative Task Force meetings, seeking to address the grim housing shortage in Native Communities. The shortage is evidenced by a composite affordability gap of 57% on American Indian reservations in Arizona. The gap means 57% of Reservation households are in substandard housing or paying more than 50% of their income for housing. Contrast this with less than 10% of off-reservation Arizona households similarly affected.

To begin creating a tribal CDFI, the ADOH/AzHFA partnered with Southwest Tribal, LLC in 2005 to apply for CDFI planning assistance. As a result of the receipt of CDFI planning funds, the Arizona Tribal Community Development Financial Institution (ATC) has been formed with a 7-member board of directors. The purpose of ATC is to provide capital to all Arizona tribes to address physical infrastructure, housing and community facility needs. It will also provide development services to help tribes to qualify their projects for financing. The AzHFA has granted \$1.25 million in seed capital and ADOH has matched that grant. Private capital sources have also expressed an interest in providing financing for this effort. The ATC has received \$5,250 from JP Morgan Chase, and has agreed to a loan from Bank of American for up to \$250,000. The organizing committee of the ATC directly or indirectly represents all twenty-two tribes (one not federally recognized) in the state. ATC is organized as a statewide CDFI serving all tribes in Arizona. On February 10, 2006 the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, representing 20 of the 22 Tribal Governments of Arizona, voted unanimously to support the formation of the ATC. The Navajo Nation, while not a member of the Inter Tribal Council, has a member on the ATC board of directors. Loans have already been approved by the ATC to three different housing entities to assist in providing housing for Native Americans in Arizona.

The ATC recently applied for federal CDFI certification and federal funding. The application for certification as a CDFI was submitted on January 19, 2006 and a follow-up application for matching federal funds was submitted on March 1, 2006. Should the ATC qualify as a CDFI, the CDFI Fund at Treasury can match its initial equity contribution in a 1-to-1 ratio (with certain restrictions). The equity (or permanent capital) allows the CDFI to approach conventional capital markets to borrow long term. Banks are encouraged to participate in CDFI efforts through the Bank Enterprise Awards, the Community Reinvestment Act and the prospect of enlarging their portfolio with business from previously untapped markets. This long-term debt is re-loaned to tribes to prime the pump for projects like infrastructure and new home construction on reservations. Portions could be allocated to lend to individual tribal members for conventional mortgages and down payment assistance.

Given the potential CDFI Fund contribution, the ATC would have tremendous potential to finance the necessary infrastructure and housing needs of Arizona's tribes. In addition, ADOH and AzHFA saw a tremendous benefit in organizing a statewide effort since it would allow smaller tribes who could not generate the critical mass of loan volume to support their own CDFI entities, and do not possess the lending and financial expertise. Further, it saved tribes from the work necessary to form a CDFI since any tribe will be able to apply to the proposed entity for financing.



The ATC forecasts its efforts will catalyze 4,150 units of new and rehabilitated units being placed in service over the next four years. For financial modeling purposes, the units are split between single and multifamily uses. When these numbers were put into the Arizona Department of Housing Regional Economic and Demographic (REMI) Model the results were startling. REMI forecasts that the efforts of the ATC will contribute between \$14 million and \$200 million to the Arizona economy annually. These contributions form a steady progression over the four years.

The ATC Board of Directors includes: Patrick Borunda, The Navigator Group, LLC; Chester Carl, Executive Director – Navajo Housing Authority; Jamie Fullmer, Chairman – Yavapai-Apache Nation; Leonard Rivers, Vice-President – Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community; Wayne Taylor Jr., Former Chairman – Hopi Nation; and Diana Yazzie Devine, CEO/President – Native American Connections, Inc.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 the ATC Board of Directors officially welcomed Verrin Kewenvoyouma, Associate – KPMG, LLP, as the seventh member to the ATC Board. Accompanying Mr. Kewenvoyouma on the Board are: Patrick Borunda, The Navigator Group, LLC; Chester Carl, Executive Director – Navajo Housing Authority; Jamie Fullmer, Chairman – Yavapai-Apache Nation; Leonard Rivers, Vice-President – Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community; Wayne Taylor Jr., Former Chairman – Hopi Nation; and Diana Yazzie Devine, CEO/President – Native American Connections, Inc.

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006 the ATC was awarded a technical assistance grant of \$125,000 from the US Treasury Department Office of Public Affairs through the CDFI Fund's Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA) Program. This grant will be used to acquire products and services that will significantly contribute to the development of ATC.

### **Affordable Housing Institute**

The Ki:Ki Association from the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Navajo Partnership for Housing, a non-profit organization, have successfully completed the 2006 Affordable Housing Institute (AHI) sponsored by the Arizona Department of Housing. The AHI is an intense series of hands-on training sessions where participants actually work on potential affordable housing projects.

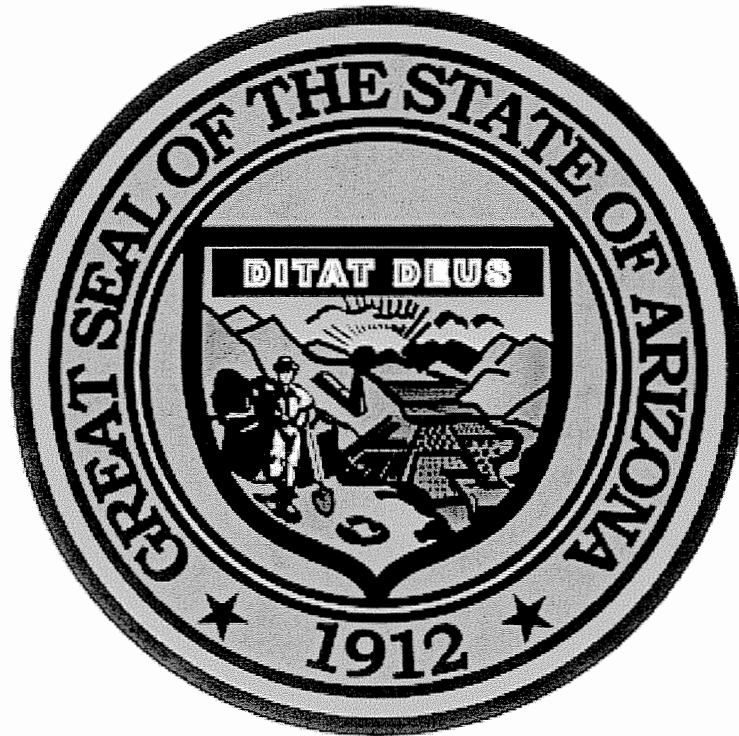
### **ADOH Tribal Liaison**

One of the critical components that emerged from the Governor's tribal summits was the creation of a Tribal Liaison who will be charged with providing technical assistance and agency outreach on behalf of ADOH. In 2003, Michael



Vaughn, a member of the Hualapai Tribe, accepted this responsibility and served the state and tribal communities until his departure in February 2006.

In March 2006, ADOH hired Eric Descheenie, a member of the Navajo Nation, as the new Tribal Liaison. Mr. Descheenie brings experience in state government having served in the Arizona Governor's Office of Equal Opportunity, as well as private sector experience at his most recent post with KPMG, LLP. He can be reached at [ericd@housingaz.com](mailto:ericd@housingaz.com) and at (602) 771-1087.



**Summit Progress Report  
for  
Arizona Teacher Excellence  
Program**

**And  
Arizona Department of  
Education**

**September 14, 2006**

## **Arizona Governor's Office Arizona Teacher Excellence Plan**

The Arizona Governor's Office was awarded \$8 million dollars from the U.S. Department of Education Title II Teacher Quality Enhancement Program to develop a corps of highly qualified teachers to staff Arizona's underserved schools on Arizona's Indian reservations and Enterprise Communities. The Governor's Office has developed partnerships with the Arizona Department of Education and the Northern Arizona University Arizona K-12 Center to achieve the objectives of the Arizona Teacher Excellence Plan (AzTEP). The grant requires the participating districts and partners to provide a 50% match of funds or in-kind resources.

### **Background**

The initiatives presented in AzTEP address issues raised at the first Tribal Summit, hosted by the Governor Napolitano in March 2003. At this initial Tribal Summit, representatives from the Governor's Office, the Arizona Department of Education, K-12 education, state institutions of higher education (IHEs), and tribal leaders convened to define Arizona's critical need for teachers and frame a "collaborative response for recruitment, credentialing, and retention of highly qualified teachers." Participants studied and reacted to research on teacher certification, quality, and the Morrison Institute's Report (2003) on the demand and supply of teachers in Arizona.

Recognizing the indispensable role of tribal entities in developing state policy, the Governor convened a second meeting attended by 21 of the 22 Arizona Indian nations as well as representatives of the Arizona Department of Education. Tribes in Arizona have long held education of tribal members as an essential component of improved economic development and social welfare in reservation communities. Ultimately, the Arizona Teacher Excellence Plan (AzTEP) was conceived by state leaders in discussions with stakeholders turned partners, and informed by the extensive and targeted teacher preparation initiatives currently in place at IHEs. AzTEP's origins demonstrate a sense of ownership and accountability for teacher quality across Arizona.

### **AzTEP grantees include**

- Chinle Unified School District – 7 schools in Chinle, Many Farms, and Tsille
- Salt River High School
- Somerton Middle School
- Tuba City Unified School District – 6 schools in Tuba City, Cameron, and Gap
- Indian Oasis-Baboquivari United School District - 2 schools in Sells
- Window Rock Unified School District – 6 schools in Ft. Defiance, Window Rock, and Sawmill.

## **AzTEP Program Elements**

The Arizona Teacher Excellence Plan (AzTEP) provides funding to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers in schools located within Arizona Indian reservations and former Enterprise Communities. The goal of the AzTEP initiative is to address problems of high teacher turnover in Tribal and high-poverty schools through:

1. the implementation of a scholarship program for aspiring teachers;
2. a mentor teacher /induction program for beginning teachers; and
3. professional development opportunities to support existing teachers.

Following is a synopsis of the programs and activities to-date.

### **1. Recruitment of Teachers**

Research indicates that beginning teachers who are long-time residents of the community in which they teach are more likely to remain in the community than beginning teachers who have little familiarity with the community in which they are teaching. In addition, long-time residents who become teachers often reflect the linguistic and cultural backgrounds of the students. Research also suggests that students reach higher levels of achievement when their teachers share or are familiar with students' ethnic or linguistic characteristics.

Based on these research findings, AzTEP has encouraged a "grow your own" approach to expanding the pool of highly qualified teachers. AzTEP provides scholarship funds to schools to recruit Native American teachers by focusing on existing school paraprofessionals and Native students currently in teacher preparation tracks. Pre-service teaching candidates are awarded the scholarships via the grantee school or district, and, once certified, are then required to teach in a high needs school for a period of time or reimburse the U.S. Department of Education.

Currently, there are **42 future teachers** receiving AzTEP scholarship assistance.

### **2. Retention of Beginning Teachers**

Research indicates that approximately one-third of all new teachers leave the profession within the first two years of teaching. New teachers face many difficulties that may contribute to this attrition including large class size coupled with students with widely divergent needs, extracurricular duties, teaching outside their fields of expertise, little administrative support, feelings of isolation, classroom management issues, parents and community concerns, reality/culture shock, and low salary.

In order to address the high turnover of beginning teachers, a formal mentoring program has been included as a required program element of the AzTEP Project. The Arizona K-12 Center is partnering with the Governor's Office to insure that each AzTEP school has a trained Mentor Teacher to work with and support each beginning teacher

hired by the school. Known as an Induction Program, the purpose is to enhance the knowledge, skills and competencies of beginning teachers.

To effectively implement the Induction Program, each AzTEP school or school district has identified a Mentor Teacher. She or he is a qualified, experienced teacher who will serve as a full-time Mentor to a maximum of 15 beginning teachers. The Mentor Teacher is responsible for guiding and supporting each beginning teacher as they enter the teaching profession, to improve classroom practice, to increase the academic success of all students and to increase the likelihood that the teacher will remain in the classroom beyond their first two years of practice. The Arizona K-12 Center is providing training to each of the Mentor Teachers through a contract with the University of California at Santa Cruz, New Teacher Center, a nationally recognized organization that supports beginning teachers to become successful in the teaching profession. In addition, the Arizona K-12 Center is providing on-going support to the Mentor Teachers as they support the beginning teachers.

### **3. Retention of Existing Teachers**

Retaining existing teachers is also an important goal of AzTEP. Four programs have been implemented to assist in supporting the growth of the number of highly qualified teachers serving in reservation schools.

Governor Napolitano's **Master Teacher Program** will insure that each and every Arizona school has a Master Teacher who will mentor and support existing teaching staff. Designed to recognize an individual for excellence in the classroom including the ability to: improve student achievement; mentor other teachers in achieving excellence; and communicate effectively with their community, the AzTEP schools will be among the first to take part in this program. Each AzTEP school is in the process of identifying a cadre of Distinguished Teachers from which to select a Master Teacher who will mentor and support their teaching staff. Research shows that programs that both recognize experienced teachers and then pair them with new teachers for mentoring have the dual benefit of increasing retention rates by as much as 50% while also accelerating the effectiveness of new teachers.

**National Board Certification** is an advanced certification program for experienced teachers. National Board Certification emphasizes the importance of helping teachers advance to more proficient levels by understanding how to help students at every level and to develop leadership skills in our experienced teacher corps. National Board Certification offers this opportunity by formalizing a mechanism for teachers to evaluate their teaching practices and engaging in meaningful professional growth. Research conducted by the ASU College of Education indicates that students taught by a National Board Certified Teacher are two months ahead of other students with regard to academic progress. Each AzTEP school will identify a teacher to attend pre-candidacy training and pursue National Board Certification either in the Spring of 2006 or the following year.

Prior to the arrival of AzTEP to these campuses, no advanced credentialing programs such as **National Board** Certification and **Master Teacher** had been placed in reservation schools.

The **Professional Development Leadership Academy (PDLA)** and the **Arizona School Services through Educational Technology (ASSET)** are required professional development programs that will be instituted through the Arizona Department of Education. The ADE's **Professional Development Leadership Academy (PDLA)** is a series of workshops designed to help school/district teams create Professional Development Plans. All participant schools must identify a school team of 5-8 members. The PDLA strongly advises teams consider having representation from the following areas: Administrator with decision-making power regarding Professional Development, Teacher, Parent, Federal Program Director/Coordinator, Staff Developer/Curriculum Specialist, other staff members who can contribute to the achievement of the overall Professional Development Plan. The purpose of the teams is to have a group of professionals from the school/district work together to assess student needs and areas for improvement, assess the skills of the staff, and determine the professional development needed to increase and enhance those skills. This information would be used to design, implement, manage and evaluate quality professional development in the school/district. Team members are responsible for attending trainings and working collaboratively to develop and to implement the plan.

To-date, two schools and one district have completed their first year of PDLA training and are well into the development of their professional development plan. The AzTEP schools who were awarded grants in July 2005 began training in September 2005.

**Emergency certified** teachers are teachers who have a temporary credential to teach pending their ability to fulfill state requirements, including passing the state Knowledge Test. In remote areas of Arizona few resources exist to support teachers who have hurdles yet to clear to become Highly Qualified teachers able to teach in Arizona schools over the long term. This often leads to the loss of teachers whose Emergency Certificates expire without being able to meet the requirements to become permanently certified. Through a new partnership with NAU, Emergency Certified teachers are provided support through summer programs to assist them in passing the State Knowledge tests and meeting other certification requirements, in turn reducing the loss of teachers in AzTEP schools.

**ASSET** has helped Arizona educators integrate technology into their classrooms. What began as an experiment to cost-effectively distribute instructional videos statewide has grown into an organization that offers a broad array of services for educators. For AzTEP schools, ASSET membership services includes online professional development opportunities, a streamed video library, and access to a variety of web-based resources and lesson plans through the ASSET Education Portal. ASSET will provide a pathway

of courses and online workshops for teachers at different levels of teaching experience and subjects.

#### **4. Improved Data Collection**

The fourth objective requires the collection of data for these research-based programs that will enable the Governor's Office and the participating AzTEP schools and districts to evaluate the success of the AzTEP program components in Native American reservation schools and understand the relationship between the professional development activities in the AzTEP project, the increase in the number of highly qualified teachers, and ultimately the improvement in student achievement in AzTEP schools.

#### **5. Grant Sustainability**

Ultimately, the AzTEP grant will expire and schools will need to sustain the programs to experience long-term results. The Governor formed the Governor's Committee on Teacher Quality and Support to take lessons learned from the grant and the research to develop recommendations for supporting and retaining teachers. The following recommendations were forwarded by the TQS Committee, funded by the Governor's FY 2007 Executive Budget and adopted by the Legislature during budget negotiations.

\$100 million to give every teacher in Arizona a raise. Though professional development and mentoring play a key role in teacher retention, pay matters. The Governor additionally proposed establishing a minimum salary to level the recruiting playing field. This measure was not adopted by the Legislature and will have to be revisited.

\$1 million to grow the Master Teacher program as a state program in anticipation of the expiring grant. These dollars will continue to be targeted to schools and districts in need of improving the experience and strength of their teaching corps. This is the state's first induction program and was made possible by the early support of the Title II grant that allowed the Governor's Office and the Arizona K12 Center to research and establish a research-based program with an application process that not only identified Master Teachers but identifies future potential MT's.

Additional initiatives forwarded to the Governor for future action include establishing standards-based professional development to improve the offerings of professional development for teachers and to level the playing field of professional development offerings across the state; and expanding the state's Career Ladder program to ensure a dedicated revenue source for developing and paying teachers.

## Arizona Department of Education Office of Indian Education

During the last legislative session SB 1363 was passed and the Office of Indian Education was established in ARS 15-244. Some key points in the new law outline some of the activities the Indian Education Office will carry out. Among the new duties associated with the implementation of the law are fostering parental involvement, providing additional reports to tribal leaders, and the establishment of membership on an Indian Education Advisory Committee. Also, be on the look out for the annual meeting for stakeholders on Indian Education issues which is also outlined in the law. The law goes into effect September 21, 2006.

### **Native American Dropout Prevention Initiative**

Arizona State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Horne announced the U.S. Department of Education has awarded the Arizona Department of Education, in partnership with the White Mountain and San Carlos Apache Tribes, a \$1.8 million dollar, three-year grant for the ***Arizona Native American Dropout Prevention Initiative (NADPI)***. Arizona is one of only four awardees nationwide to receive federal funding for reducing state dropout rates, and is also the only grantee addressing the specific needs of American Indian students.

The Arizona Department of Education has begun to implement the grant initiative that will result in a national dropout prevention model addressing the chronically high dropout rates and low high school completion rates among American Indian youth. NADPI funds are allocating toward the cost of implementing prescribed program elements and activities through partnerships with Whiteriver Unified School District and San Carlos Unified School District.

#### **NADPI Objectives for Whiteriver USD and San Carlos USD:**

- a. Decrease school dropout rates by 3%;
- b. Increase daily attendance each year by 20%;
- c. Increase year to year retention rates by 15%;
- d. Increase youth re-entry and graduation rates each year by 15%;
- e. Improve school staff skills in assessment of at-risk students;
- f. 85% of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will complete Individual Performance Plans each year;
- g. 75% of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will complete five year education/career plans each year; and
- h. Demonstrate improvement on AIMS test scores.

To achieve the project objectives, the Arizona Department of Education will collaborate with the White Mountain and San Carlos Tribes, other state reservation-based public school districts, tribal leaders, youth and tribal community members,



colleges and universities, and state and tribal social and behavioral health agencies serving American Indians.

Bonnie Talakte was named director of the Native American Dropout Prevention initiative. She can be reached at (602) 542-4311, email: [bonnie.talakte@azed.gov](mailto:bonnie.talakte@azed.gov).

### **Native American Youth Conference**

The Arizona Department of Education, the Arizona Indian Education Association, and the Arizona State University cordially invite you to register your Native American Students for the 2006 Native American Youth Conference: ***Transitioning Through Life: Culture, Education, and Choices***.

This year's conference will be held on October 19-20, 2006 at Arizona State University at the West campus. The goal of the conference is to provide guidance to Arizona's Native American youth in grades 7-12 in transitioning from family to education and on to adulthood. Last year we had 400 youth from many tribes throughout the state. This year we hope make our conference even better and more exciting with topics, speakers, and workshops designed to encourage our Native American young people to realize their potential as the leaders of the next generation.

There is a \$75.00 registration fee per person due October 11, 2006. For your convenience online conference registration and payment is now available at [www.aieacorp.org](http://www.aieacorp.org).

### **Superintendent Horne's Native American Advisory Committee**

Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Horne's Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC) meeting will be on October 30, 2006. The NAAC meets twice a year directly with Superintendent Horne to discuss issues impacting education of Native American children in Arizona. This meeting has a format that is based on open dialogue with Superintendent Horne and his staff at the Arizona Department of Education ("ADE"). It is a very useful forum for information, communication, and exchanges on timely Indian Education issues.

During the past three years many issues have been raised by school administrators, tribal leaders and community members at the NAAC. The NAAC has been a forum to begin working on top Indian education issues, many of these have resulted in beneficial outcomes. In the last few years State Academic standards have been changed and updated to reflect more Native American history from Arizona and the United States. New staff has been hired in the Indian Education office as a result of suggestions made in past NAAC meetings. The ADE has applied for and received a major federal grant to address high dropout rates in American Indian Communities. More Indian education issues have been addressed at large audience conferences and summits sponsored by ADE. Additional research and training relevant to educators serving American Indian children have been conducted. Many of these changes have come about from

communications initiated at recent Native American Advisory Committee meetings. Additional improvements are possible with the continuation of vital communication between tribal leaders, educators, and the Arizona Department of Education.

The next NAAC is set for October 30, 2006 from 2:30 pm - 4:00pm. There are several interactive television sites across the state to accommodate participants.

Flagstaff: Adel Mathematics, Building #26, Room 137at NAU.

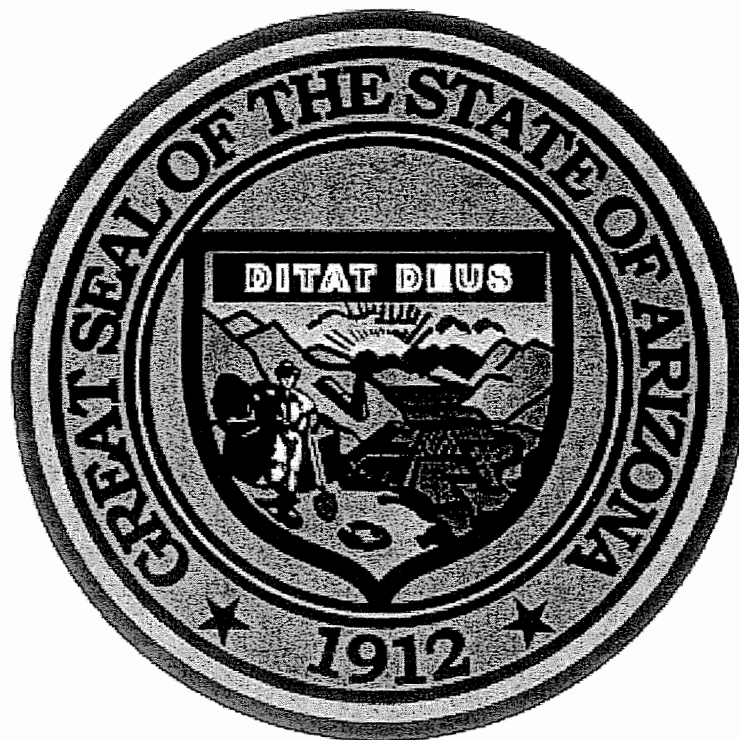
Ft. Defiance: Exemplary School/ Computer Services Building, NAU II TV Room.  
The NAU classroom is behind Ft. Defiance Middle School.

Phoenix: Paradise Valley Community College, Building M West, Room M102.  
18401 N. 32nd St.  
**Superintendent Horne will be at this location.**

Tucson: Pima Community College,  
Building C, Room C-116.  
401 N. Bonita Ave.

#### **State Tutoring Funds to Tribal Education Departments (“TEDs”)**

Two tribes are already in the process of accessing/using state tutoring funds for state public school students on reservations. Tutoring funds will be available to other Tribal Education Departments when a template for Tribal/ ADE agreements is completed. State tutoring funds can be used to provide tutoring to state public school students who attend schools identified for school improvement. Tutoring funds to TEDs will increase the availability of needed tutoring funds to reservation students via tribal education programs.



**Summit Progress Report**  
for  
**Arizona Department of  
Tourism**

**September 14, 2006**

**DIRECTOR**  
**Margie Emmerman**

**TRIBAL LIAISON**  
**Dawn Melvin**  
Native American Tourism Development



## **Tribal Summit Progress Report for The Arizona Office of Tourism April 2006 to August 2006**

In December 2003, the Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) participated in the Tribal Summit on Economic Development and Tourism in Yuma, Arizona. AOT presented three new recommendations to enhance Native American cultural marketing programs. They included hiring a Native American Tourism Development Manager, initiating the Native American Visitor and Economic Impact Survey, and establishing a Tribal Tourism Advisory Committee. The Office of Tourism has moved forward in each of these areas; Dawn Melvin was hired to fill the position of Native American Tourism Development Manager in March 2004; the survey is in the final stages of completion with nine Tribal participants; and the Tribal Tourism Advisory Committee meets on a quarterly basis to receive input from members who are appointed by each Tribes' leadership.

The Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) continues to work with Tribal communities serving as a resource and disseminating information about the programs, services and grants available to Tribes.

The Tribal Tourism Advisory Committee held its quarterly meeting on June 15, 2006. Members provided feedback on the Native American marketing plan and photo project. Agency grant program guidelines were distributed identifying requirements and due dates.

Special sessions featuring Native American product development and sharing of specific ways to partner with Tribes were presented at both the Arizona Governor's Conference on Tourism in Tucson, on July 11, 2006 and at the Governor's Rural Development Conference in Flagstaff, on August 17, 2006. Tribal panelists at the tourism conference included: Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Gila River Indian Community, White River Apache Tribe and Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise.

Governor Janet Napolitano presented the Western Governor's Association George S. Mickelson Fellowship to Dawn Melvin, Native American Tourism Development Manager, at the annual WGA meeting in Sedona, Arizona on June 12, 2006. The Fellowship will provide an opportunity for Dawn to increase her knowledge of political, legal, economic, structural and cultural issues as they relate to Tribal tourism and economic development efforts.

## **Program Updates:**

### **Native American Tourism Development**

- The *Survey of Visitors to Arizona's Tribal Lands* has been completed. The executive summary of the survey is now available on-line at [www.azot.gov](http://www.azot.gov). The study was more than a year-long endeavor, conducted by Northern Arizona University, with the purpose of capturing information about visitors' experiences within Arizona's Tribal Lands. This is the first comprehensive study of visitors to Native American Tribes in Arizona and the Southwest. The results of the study provide important information about the behaviors and characteristics of visitors to Tribal lands that will help Tribes with their future marketing activities. AOT will also use the information to more effectively reach our target markets. Presentations have been made to the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and the Colorado River Indian Tribes. Contact has been made to secure a date to present the report to Tribal Councils for the Gila River Indian Community, Hopi Tribe, Navajo Arts & Crafts Enterprise, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Tohono O'odham Nation and the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

### **Marketing**

- A *Native American Marketing Plan* has been developed and integrated into AOT's agency marketing plan. It will enhance visibility and help focus attention on the numerous Native American attractions and experiences. This heightened emphasis in FY '07 will provide new and exciting partnership opportunities for the Tribes.

### **Trade Shows and Media Events**

- *Grand Canyon IMAX Road Show* campaign consists of bringing the "Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets" IMAX film to select cities in Canada. In conjunction with Travel Industry Marketing and Media Relations divisions, AOT will promote the Toronto event by featuring live performances by a Native American Hoop Dance champion. The promotion takes place August 27 – 30, 2006.

- *New York Media Marketplace* is an event organized by AOT annually. Fifteen Arizona partners and 65-85 invited media guests will attend this combined marketplace exhibit and reception. The featured Native American components will include a traditional basket weaver from the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the tasting of food products made from blue corn meal. The Hopi delicacies were selected to engage invited leisure writers to sample piki (traditional paper thin bread), sumeviki (ceremonial treat that resembles a small tamale), and blue marbles (round balls of blue corn dough in a blue corn broth). This is the first time AOT has featured Native American culture at the New York Media Marketplace.

### **Target Cities Campaign**

- *New York City* has been selected to expose the consumer market to the wide range of Native American experiences that Arizona has to offer. A cultural lecture to highlight Tribal tourism efforts in Arizona will be offered in a selected museum.

### **Photo Project**

AOT has initiated a project that will provide professional quality photographs for use by Tribal tourism programs and AOT in brochures, advertising campaigns, and to accompany stories written about Tribal tourism marketing and product development efforts. A list of tourism attractions, events and experiences was developed with individual Tribal representatives on the Tribal Tourism Advisory Committee. This year, ten images will be selected and photographed intended to capture the excitement and diversity of travel to Indian Country.

### **Native American Advertisement**

A Native American cultural heritage ad was created to be a part of the AOT media mix for placement in select magazines. A copy of the new ad can be found at the end of this report.

## **Education and Development**

- For FY '07, AOT awarded \$1.4 million in matching grants to rural and Tribal tourism organizations through the *Teamwork for Effective Arizona Marketing (TEAM)* program. The program enables Tribes, communities and organizations to promote their tourism offerings through advertising, public relations campaigns, research and strategic planning and other tourism-related marketing. A total of five grants to Native American communities and organizations were awarded. Individual grants awards included the following: Cocopah Indian Tribe received \$11,125 for Strategic Planning and Research; Gila River Indian Community received \$24,600 for Advertising, Website Development, Printed Materials, Audio Visual Materials and Special Marketing Opportunities; and Navajo Nation received \$24,846 for Advertisement Placement. Two Tribes participated in regional applications including: Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe with the Prescott Area Coalition for Tourism received \$130,000 for Advertising, Website Development, Printed Materials, Audio Visual Materials, Special Marketing Opportunities and Media Communications; and the White Mountain Apache Tribe with the White Mountains Partnership received \$130,000 for Print and On-line Advertising, Strategic Planning and Research, Print/Broadcast/Outdoor Placement, Web Site Development, Special Marketing Opportunities and Media Communications
- The new *Rural Tourism Development Grant* program has been successful in its first year with thirteen projects receiving a total of \$500,000 in matching grant funds for the development of new tourism products, or the enhancement or renovation of existing tourism products. Two of these grants were awarded to Tribal communities in FY '06: the Shonto Community Governance, Navajo Nation received \$49,300 to install self-service kiosks for tourist oriented destination signage to enhance the tourism experience and support economic growth; and the White Mountain Apache Tribe Heritage Program received \$40,875 for the Fort Apache Cultural Center visitors parking improvements to pave the parking area to accommodate visitors to the museum. The amount of funding available through the Rural Tourism

Development Grant Program for FY '07 is \$697,000. Five Tribal communities have applied. Applications will be review and announced in late September 2007.

- *An AOT on the Road: Community Outreach Workshop* specifically designed to reach the Tribal tourism community will be offered October 25, 2006. This is the fourth year Tribal tourism professionals will have the opportunity to meet with agency directors at this complimentary workshop designed to educate and answer questions on tourism related issues. Examples of current programming including the Native American messaging will be highlighted.
- AOT has been sharing information and participating in discussions with the Tribes to explore the opportunity to develop an Arizona Indian Festival that will take place during the 2008 Super Bowl.

For further information or to register for our workshops, contact Dawn Melvin, Native American Tourism Development Manager, Arizona Office of Tourism at 602-364-3707 or [dmelvin@azot.gov](mailto:dmelvin@azot.gov) .



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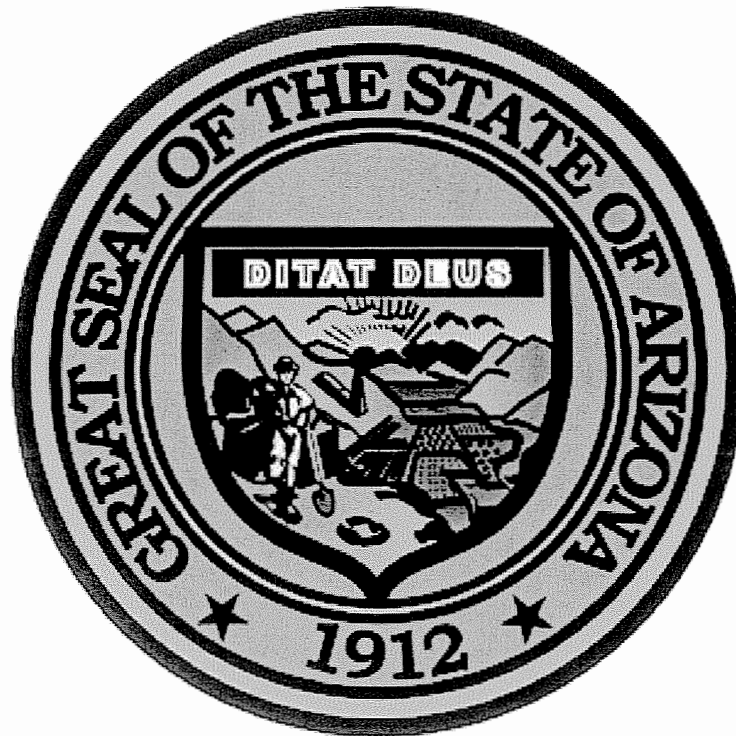


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**ARIZONA**  
GRAND CANYON STATE





**Summit Progress Report**  
**for**  
**Arizona Department of**  
**Transportation**  
**September 14, 2006**

**DIRECTOR**  
**Victor Mendez**

**TRIBAL LIAISON**  
**Don Sneed**

Senior Planner/Tribal Coordinator  
Transportation Planning Division

# Arizona Department of Transportation

## Progress Report September 14, 2006

The Governor's Tribal Summit on Transportation was held March 10, 2004, at the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Tribal Community. The following summarizes follow-up actions and related activities for the themes identified at the Summit. This report covers progress for the period of May to August 2006.

### **Summit Follow-up Action and Activities**

#### **Theme: State-Tribal Consultation and Coordination**

Action: Develop a more formalized process for state-tribal consultation and coordination of long-term planning. Work with the Governor's Office and Inter Tribal Council of Arizona to pull the process together.

#### Activity: ADOT Tribal Transportation Issues Working Group

The ADOT Tribal Transportation Issues Working Group has worked to complete the first phase of a three-phased approach to address the consultation policy and process theme. A summary of the phases and related progress are as follows:

- Phase I: Develop a draft consultation policy with participation by various tribal transportation stakeholders. Finalize the policy through the internal ADOT policy approval process.
- Phase II: Implement a consultation process that includes educational forums for Tribal leadership, personnel and stakeholders.
- Phase III: Implement a process for obtaining Tribal and ADOT executive level leadership involvement in implementation of the policy and process.

At a June 8, 2006 Arizona Tribal Strategic Partnering Team meeting Marnie Hodahkwen, Governor's Tribal Policy Advisor, provided guidance on the Governor's request for State agencies to develop tribal consultation policies. Since then an "ADOT Department-Wide Native Nation/Tribal Government Consultation Policy" has been developed. Using the ADEQ Consultation Policy as a basis, the ADOT policy incorporates comments received through two preliminary review processes by transportation stakeholders. A draft final version of the policy was submitted to the ADOT Policy Coordinator in August. On September 1, 2006 the Policy was officially added to the ADOT Intranet Online Policy and Procedure Central Repository under the reference MGT-16.01 Department-wide Native Nation/Tribal Government Consultation Policy.

Timeframe: First phase completed and initiate planning for the second phase in September 2006

Activity: Arizona Tribal Strategic Partnering Team (ATSPT)

The ATSPT met on June 8, 2006 in Phoenix, Arizona to address the following agenda items: (1) Members' Updates; (2) ATSPT Strategic Plan Update; (3) Discussion with Marnie Hodahkwen - Governor's Tribal Policy Advisor; and, (4) Discussion with Ginger Murdough - ADOT Partnering Administrator. Major highlights of the meeting follow.

The ATSPT initiated discussion on conducting a statewide state-tribal transportation forum. Detailed discussion on the forum's purpose, expected outcomes, agenda items and design will take place at the ATSPT's next meeting in September 2006.

The ATSPT was provided an update on progress for development of a State-Tribal Partnering Handbook. This document is expected to be a condensed, high-level view of Tribal transportation information and a point of reference for all groups seeking to initiate a partnering effort. A potential outline of the handbook was presented indicating reference summaries for stakeholder agencies, organizational charts, select FAQ's, Acronyms and categorized web sites.

Ms. Hodahkwen was introduced and she explained the Governor's request for the State agencies to develop Tribal consultation policies. She indicated that the main focus of the policy is to identify how the State agency will consult with Tribes on matters that may impact or have the potential to impact them. The agencies were requested to complete the policies as soon as possible. It was also suggested that State agencies could use the policy as a way to market successful consultation that has already taken place and that which is planned.

Ms. Murdough was introduced and she announced that she would be retiring June 30th after 34 years with ADOT. She expressed her appreciation for being part of the successful ATSPT partnering effort. She offered some parting advice regarding her vision on partnering that is basically it is part of the ADOT culture and is the way to work in all relationships.

The next ATSPT meeting is scheduled for September 7, 2006 at the ADOT Human Resource Development Center in Phoenix, Arizona. Tribal representatives are encouraged to participate in these meetings. Further information can be obtained by contacting Don Sneed of ADOT at (602) 712-8140.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: FHWA/FTA Transportation Planning Excellence Award

With support from the FHWA Arizona Division Office, in February 2006 ADOT had submitted a nomination for the ATSPT under the FHWA/FTA Transportation

Planning Excellence Award Program. On June 13, 2006 ADOT was notified that the ATSPT was selected to receive an award for its efforts to promote an on-going statewide tribal partnering effort. On July 9, 2006 Don Sneed of ADOT accepted the award on behalf of the ATSPT at the Transportation Research Board - Summer Conference in La Jolla, California. Also, the TRB Committee on Native American Transportation Issues, the TRB Tribal Transportation Safety Subcommittee, and the TRB Tribal Historical and Archaeological Preservation in Transportation Joint Subcommittee held their mid-year sessions in conjunction with the conference.

Timeframe: Completed

Activity: Navajo Nation/ADOT/FHWA/BIA Partnership

The Navajo Department of Transportation (NDOT) hosted a two-day gathering for the Partnership Steering Committee on June 5-6, 2006 in Window Rock, Arizona. The goals of the gathering were to increase understanding of Navajo Nation protocol and organizational structure, to integrate the Partnership's direction and goals for the upcoming year into the steering committee's work plan, and to focus the steering committee's effort this year on key successes among partners that can be reported at the next annual meeting. On June 5th the Partnership Steering Committee attended a Navajo Nation Intergovernmental Relations Standing Committee meeting and was provided a debriefing on the operation of Standing Committee. On June 6th the Steering Committee convened a regular meeting to address the following agenda items: (1) Member Updates, (2) Further Clarify Navajo Nation Government Structure, (3) Prioritize Annual Meeting Goals into Strategic Work Plan, (4) Brainstorm on Potential Partnership Resources, (5) Review Partnership Award Opportunities, and (6) Review Partnership Evaluation Program Results. The next meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled for September 6, 2006 in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: 2006 Arizona Transportation Partnering Excellence Award

The Navajo Nation/ADOT/BIA/FHWA Partnership has been nominated to receive an award under the Arizona Transportation Partnering Excellence Award Program. This nomination was submitted under the general non-construction category and focused on the Partnership's on-going efforts to improve working relationships between the Navajo Nation, ADOT, FHWA and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Members of the Partnership pooled their resources together and completed an application that was submitted to the ADOT Partnering Office on August 30, 2006. Notice of award recipients is scheduled for November 3, 2006.

Activity: Navajo DOT Transportation Summit

The Navajo Department of Transportation (NDOT) Summit 2006 "Enhancing Leadership in Transportation for the Navajo People" convened on June 27-29, 2006 in Ganado, Arizona. This annual summit is a tribal effort to bring all transportation

stakeholders from Arizona, New Mexico and Utah to the Navajo Nation and provide an update to them on current transportation matters impacting the Tribe. A number of ADOT representatives attended the event and David Sikes, ADOT Holbrook District Engineer provided an update on the ADOT-NDOT Partnership. Several other agenda items included: (1) Historical Impact of Transportation on Education, (2) Navajo Nation Governmental Structure, (3) Challenges of Navajo School Districts' Transportation, (4) Historic Preservation Arch Clearances, (5) Environmental Protection - Environmental Assessments, (6) Land Department - ROW/Easement Acquisition, (7) Land Department - BIA Road Project Status, (8) State-Navajo DOT Partnership, and (9) BIA-Navajo DOT Partnership, (10) County-Navajo DOT Partnership. The Navajo Nation also declared June 2006 as "Navajo Nation Month of Transportation: A Commitment to Excellence and Achievement".

Timeframe: Completed

Activity: NDOT/ADOT Memorandum of Understanding

The Navajo Department of Transportation (NDOT) and ADOT have finalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish procedures to implement a government-to-government relationship. Following is a chronological timeline of the major steps that have occurred during this reporting period.

- On May 2, 2006, an "Intergovernmental Agreement Determination" dated April 25th was received by ADOT from the Attorney General's Office.
- On May 4, 2006, ADOT delivered the MOU to the Arizona Secretary of State, which officially filed the MOU on this date under reference Number 28220. The Arizona Secretary of State retained one original set, ADOT retained one original set and two original sets were forwarded to NDOT.
- On May 24, 2006, ADOT-TPD submitted the original set of the MOU to the ADOT State Engineer's Office for filing in its Joint Project Agreement (JPA) database.
- On May 30, 2006, the ADOT State Engineer's Office assigned JPA # 06-065 to the MOU thus finalizing the MOU development process on the part of the State.

The next step under this effort is to conduct a meeting between NDOT and ADOT to identify the process of establishing a Working Group as provided for in the MOU. The meeting on this topic is expected to convene within the next several months.

Timeframe: MOU process completed and establish working group by end of 2006

Activity: SAFETEA-LU Navajo Nation High Priority Projects

ADOT is working with the FHWA Arizona Division, the Bureau of Indian Affairs - Navajo Regional Office (BIA-NRO) and the Navajo Department of Transportation (NDOT) to coordinate development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will

address funds transfer for the Navajo Nation High Priority Projects included in the federal transportation reauthorization titled "Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users" or SAFETEA-LU. Those projects include improvements to: (1) Navajo Mountain Road, (2) Navajo Route 9010, (3) Navajo Route 20, (4) Navajo Route 8086, and (5) Navajo Route N8084. On May 2nd ADOT received a response from NDOT indicating that the MOA was under review by the BIA Solicitor and comments were forthcoming. On August 9th ADOT received the MOA back from the BIA-NRO with several minor modifications, which have been incorporated into a finalized Agreement. Further progress is pending review and approval by the State Attorney General's Office for signature by the BIA and ADOT.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: SAFETEA-LU Hopi Tribe High Priority Project

On August 22, 2006, a meeting between ADOT, the Bureau of Indian Affairs - Western Regional Office (BIA-WRO) and Hopi Tribe was held to initiate dialogue on the Congressionally appropriated High Priority Project included in SAFETEA-LU for improvement to Hopi Route 4 Turquoise Trail between US 160 and SR 264. A proposed MOA developed by ADOT was presented to the BIA-WRO and the Hopi Tribe for review and comment. A second meeting to include the FHWA will be held soon to address project implementation details. Further progress is pending feedback from the Hopi Transportation Task Team on a strategy for a potential Public Law 638 process to implement the project. Also once comments are received on the draft MOA it will be forwarded for review and approval for signature by the State Attorney General's Office.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: Statewide Access Management Plan

A third meeting of the Project TAC convened on June 22, 2006 in Phoenix, Arizona. Topics addressed included: (1) Project Overview: Current Practice Report/Financial Element, Vision Statement/Program Objectives, Project Meeting Summary, and Agency Outreach Meetings; (2) Access Management Framework, (3) Classification System Standards, and (4) Next Steps.

Also, during the period of May 10th to June 28th the project team conducted a number of statewide outreach workshops with the ADOT District Engineering Offices. In addition, the project team has made a request for time on the agenda of the September 14, 2006 Inter Tribal Council of Arizona - Transportation Working Meeting to provide an in-depth presentation to Tribal transportation representatives on the status of the project. The Project Team is also working with the ADOT Holbrook District to coordinate meetings with the Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribe on the project status. Finally, Arnold Burnham of ADOT-TPD has recently been designated as the ADOT Project Manager for this effort.

Timeframe: Projected completion is February 2007

Activity: Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation - SR 87/Toh Vee Road Intersection Improvements

On May 10, 2006, ADOT officials met with the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation - Community and Economic Development Division to initiate formal discussion for project implementation on adding traffic signals at the intersection of SR 87 and Toh Vee Road. Agenda items addressed included: (1) warrant and spacing for the traffic signals at the intersection of SR 87 and Toh Vee Road, (2) development of a four-way design for the intersection that will allow for future extension of Toh Vee Road, (3) ADOT standards for design and construction, (4) cost sharing for construction between the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and ADOT, (5) completion of an intergovernmental agreement with ADOT, and (6) jurisdictional maintenance and utility responsibilities.

On August 24, 2006, ADOT officials met the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation to discuss project implementation details including ADOT design and construction standard requirements and innovative cost strategies. Basically, the Tribe would like to see the project advance quicker than ADOT processes could allow, therefore, a decision has been made by the Tribe to cover upfront costs for the design phase so that the project can continue to move forward. Further progress is expected to include completion of a design bid package by the end of October 2006.

Timeframe: Underway

Activity: San Carlos Apache Tribe Small Area Transportation Study (SATS)

On August 28, 2006, ADOT-TPD made contact with the San Carlos Apache Tribe Economic Development and Planning Department to obtain a status on the project from the Tribe's standpoint. It was learned that due to planning staff turnover the project was temporarily placed on hold. The Tribe has also hired a new Department Director who will need to be briefed on the project background. Additionally, verification is needed on the availability of BIA Indian Reservation Roads Program planning funds and the project scope of work will need to be reviewed and finalized. ADOT and the Tribal planning staff expect to schedule a meeting to address these next steps for the project.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: Pascua Yaqui Tribe Small Area Transportation Study (SATS)

On June 28, 2006 the scope of work for this project was finalized and approved by the Pascua Tribe and a finalized version of the project Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) was approved by the Tribe on August 12, 2006. In turn the State Attorney Generals Office approved the IGA language on August 16, 2006. The IGA was forwarded to the Tribal Community Development Services Office on August 23, 2006 for formal approval by Tribal Council resolution and Tribal Attorney Certification. Once these steps are completed and supporting documents are submitted to ADOT, an ADOT resolution and State Attorney Certification will be issued and the IGA will go to

the Arizona Secretary of State for filing. At that point the Tribe will begin solicitation for a consulting firm to conduct the SATS. Also, on August 25, 2006, potential SATS technical advisory committee members were notified to request their participation in the study process.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: Navajo Nation Small Area Transportation Study (SATS)

ADOT-TPD met with the Navajo DOT on May 18, 2006, to initiate discussion on implementation of a potential SATS project for the Navajo Nation. The SATS Program process and requirements were reviewed by ADOT. The Tribe desires to focus its study on updating the 2003 Navajo Nation Long Range Transportation Plan. The funding source for the Tribe's portion of the SATS project match share requirement was also discussed. On July 12, 2006 ADOT-TPD received a formal letter of commitment from the Navajo DOT requesting planning assistance through the ADOT SATS Program. In follow-up a meeting between NDOT and ADOT was held on August 4, 2006 to initiate development of the project scope of work and outline next steps. Further progress is pending a review by ADOT of the proposed scope of work elements and review by NDOT and Navajo Nation Legal Counsel on the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement language.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: Arizona Indian Town Hall

On June 5-6, 2006 ADOT participated in the Arizona Indian Town Hall in Scottsdale, Arizona. The title of the Town Hall was "Preserving Arizona's Tribal Cultural Resources, Sites and Languages" and was hosted by the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs (ACIA). Day One speakers from ACIA, Navajo Nation, and Hopi Tribe addressed their perspectives on tribal cultural preservation issues. Panel discussion sessions were conducted addressing the topics of Preserving Arizona's Native Languages; Protecting Native Ceremonial, Burial and Sacred Sites; and Repatriation of Native Artifacts and Burials. Recommendations from each panel discussion have culminated into a final report for the Town Hall, which was distributed to participants in August 2006.

Timeframe: Completed

Activity: Hopi Tribe Transportation Issues

On June 12, 2006 ADOT representatives attended a Hopi Tribe Transportation Task Team Meeting in Kykotsmovi, AZ. Per concerns expressed by the Tribe the following items were addressed: (1) Overview of Results from the 2003 ADOT SR 264 Corridor Profile Study, (2) ADOT Engineering District Update on SR 264 Projects Completed, Underway and Planned, and (3) Discussion on a Potential Hopi Tribe/ADOT/BIA/FHWA Partnership effort. The information presented was well



received by the Task Team and a follow-up meeting to identify and prioritize SR 264 projects and to further discuss a partnering effort is expected to be scheduled within the next several months.

Timeframe: Underway

Activity: ADOT Pre-Apprenticeship Highway Construction Courses.

The ADOT Pre-Apprenticeship Highway Construction Course is a six-week pre-employment training class designed to: (1) Provide highway construction employers with qualified female and minority applicants, and non-minority males; (2) Assist applicants in meeting or exceeding employer requirements by providing skills enhancement and career exploration activities; and, (3) Lead to jobs/careers in the skilled trades. ADOT conducts classes on an on-going basis and interested Tribal community members are encouraged to apply. Construction experience is not required for participants. For more information, contact Mary Cook, Program Coordinator for the ADOT Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program for Highway Construction Careers at (602) 712-7761 or (866) 425-1375. Applications are also available via email at [mcook@azdot.gov](mailto:mcook@azdot.gov).

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: ADOT Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Supportive Services Program.

The ADOT Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Supportive Services Program is designed to assist small minority and woman-owned businesses to become self-sufficient in their industry. The first priority of the program is to recruit qualified businesses to be certified as DBEs. Under this program communication with Tribal governments is conducted throughout Arizona on an on-going basis. Interested persons are encouraged to contact Ralph Gonzales, Program Manager of the ADOT Civil Rights Office - DBE Supportive Services Office, he can be reached at (602) 712-7761 or [rgonzales@azdot.gov](mailto:rgonzales@azdot.gov).

Timeframe: On-going

**Theme: Tribal Representation on the State Transportation Board**

No progress to report during this period.

## **Theme: Safety and Maintenance**

Action: Include safety and maintenance as part of the consultative process.

### Activity: ADOT-ATRC/ITCA SPR 592 Building Tribal Traffic Safety Capacity Research Project

The ADOT Arizona Transportation Research Center (ATRC) and the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) are implementing this research project under the ATRC Research Program Safety Emphasis Area. The Project involves development of methods to assist the Gila River Indian Community, Hualapai Tribe, and Tohono O'odham Nation to build their capacity to undertake highway safety issues and improvements. The research team continues to work with the Tribes on an ongoing basis to keep the project moving forward. Technical Assistance Plans have been signed by the executive bodies of the three Tribes for their participation in the project. The research team has also conducted analysis of the motor vehicle crash data obtained for each Tribe and has worked to get feedback from the Tribes on their priorities. The project team has also moved forward with the planning process phase of the project. Development of Implementation Plans including objectives and project identification is underway. Also, with approval received from ATRC the ITCA has initiated the process of presenting the Project Tribal Traffic Safety Funding Guide to the officials of the participating Tribes. An electronic version of the Funding Guide as well as the FHWA Tribal Highway Safety Improvement Program Guide has been distributed. The research team has reported on the project status to the ITCA transportation Working Group in June 2006 and will again report status to the Working Group in September 2006.

Timeframe: Projected completion is March 2007

### Activity: Statewide Pedestrian Safety Plan Initiative

The Statewide Pedestrian Safety Plan (SPSP) Initiative is managed by the ADOT Traffic Hazardous Elimination System Section. ADOT convened a Project Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting on June 14, 2006 in Tucson, Arizona. Topics addressed included: (1) Outline of the SPSP Initiative, (2) Feedback on SPSP Initiative, (3) City of Tucson DOT Presentation, and (4) Field Trip to Downtown Tucson. Participation on the TAC is open to interested Tribal representatives. The meeting minutes and further information can be obtained by contacting Don Sneed of ADOT at (602) 712-8140.

Timeframe: On-going

### Activity: Crash Data User Group

The Crash Data User Group was established by ADOT's Traffic Hazardous Elimination System Section as a means of improving crash data systems in Arizona. The Group consists of participation by various local governments and counties; Tribes

are also invited to participate. The ADOT-HES Section is the group leader and convened a User Group meeting on July 10, 2006 in Phoenix, Arizona. Topics of discussion included: (1) Updates from the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Members; (2) User Issues, Concerns, and Needs; and, (3) Agency Updates. The meeting minutes and further information can be obtained by contacting Don Sneed of ADOT at (602) 712-8140.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: Navajo Nation Road Safety Audit

On May 9, 2006 ADOT-TPD met with the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety (AGOHS), ADOT Traffic Engineering Section and FHWA to discuss a proposed Road Safety Audit (RSA) and related training with the Navajo Nation. This effort would be part of a case study being conducted by the FHWA Office of Safety and FHWA Office of Planning to increase Tribal awareness and participation in the RSA processes. Generally, RSA's provide governments with the tools to understand the critical relationships between roads, roadside, road user behavior, safety basic concepts; understanding risk and safety; along with common issues and challenges. In follow-up the AGOHS and FHWA met with the Navajo DOT representatives on June 6, 2006 in Window Rock, Arizona to discuss the Tribe's participation. The FHWA Office of Safety is expected to work with the Tribe on initiating the project and the Tribe has been invited to participate in an RSA Train the Trainer Workshop held August 29-31, 2006 in Phoenix, Arizona.

Timeframe: On-going

Activity: ADOT Safe Routes to School Program

ADOT has hired Brian Fellows as the Program Manager for the new ADOT Safe Routes to School Program as provided for in the federal transportation reauthorization titled "Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users" or SAFETEA-LU. The purposes of the Program are to: (1) enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school; (2) To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and (3) To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools. State, local, Tribal and regional agencies, including non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for project funding under this Program. Additionally, ADOT is working to set up a Technical Advisory Committee for the Program and it will include tribal representation. Potential candidates representing Tribal governments are being identified and contacted for their participation. More information on the Program can be found on the ADOT Safe Routes to School Program website at <http://tpd.azdot.gov/planning/saferoutes.php>.

Timeframe: On-going

**Theme: Signage for Tribal Communities**

Action: The Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) Native American Liaison to work with ADOT on these issues.

No progress to report during this period.

**Theme: Transit Planning and Funding**

Action: Address at the state level prior to reaching out to the federal government.

Activity: FTA Tribal Transit Program

The Federal Transit Administration's Office of Program Management has published a Notice of Funding Availability: Solicitation of Grant Applications for FY 2006 Tribal Transit Program Funds on Tuesday, August 15, 2006 in the Federal Register. The Notice summarizes and responds to written comments FTA received in response to a March 22, 2006, Federal Register Notice regarding proposed grant program provisions for this new program and to oral comments FTA received during two public meetings on this program that were held on April 4, 2006, in Denver, Colorado, and on April 7, 2006, in Kansas City, Missouri. The Notice also announces the availability of funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 for the Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program, a new program authorized by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users or SAFETEA-LU. Lastly, this Notice announces a national solicitation for applications with grantees and projects to be selected on a competitive basis; the grant terms and conditions that will apply to this new program; and grant application procedures and selection criteria for FY 2006 projects.

Timeframe: On-going

**Theme: ADOT to work with ITCA to address the Summit issues and carry out on-going dialogue**

Action: ADOT representatives to attend the ITCA Transportation Working Group (TWG) meetings to provide status reports and program information presentations to the Tribal officials.

Activity: ITCA-TWG Meeting - June 15, 2006

ADOT attended the June 15, 2006, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) Transportation Working Group Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Agenda items included: 1) BIA Indian Reservation Roads Program Update, 2) Rural Transportation Advocacy Council Overview, 3) ADOT Tribal Coordination Report, and 4) Safe Routes to School Program. Don Sneed of ADOT-TPD presented the ADOT Tribal Coordination Report specifically discussing development of the ADOT Tribal Government Consultation

Policy, activities of the ADOT Tribal Strategic Partnering Team Activities, and highlights of the Arizona Indian Town Hall. Additionally, Brian Fellows of ADOT-TPD provided an overview of the new ADOT Safe Routes to School Program. The next ITCA Transportation Working Group meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2006 in Phoenix, Arizona.

Timeframe: Completed

*Activity: ITCA Tribal Transportation Planning Consortium*

ITCA is currently considering the concept of forming a Tribal Transportation Planning Consortium basically for the purpose of addressing Tribal transportation technical assistance needs. ITCA has established a Task Force comprised of Tribal transportation representatives to conduct preliminary planning for the Consortium effort. The Task Force had its first meeting on August 4, 2006 to identify the purposes and products as well as potential services that could be provided by the Consortium. A second meeting was held on August 18, 2006 to meet with representatives from the BIA and FHWA to obtain their views on formation of the Consortium. A third meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2006 to discuss a partnership effort with ADOT and to identify potential Consortium activity priorities. Further progress is pending approval of the concept by the ITCA Board of Directors.

Timeframe: On-going

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*For further information on this progress report please contact Don Sneed, Senior Planner/Tribal Coordinator, Arizona Department of Transportation - Transportation Planning Division at (602) 712-8140 or [dsneed@azdot.gov](mailto:dsneed@azdot.gov).*